

BRIEF
of
**The Warrick County Lincoln
Route Association**

Presented by

PHILIP LUTZ, JR.

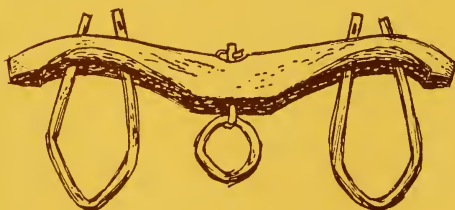
WILLIAM L. BARKER

LEON W. YOUNGBLOOD

BOONVILLE, INDIANA

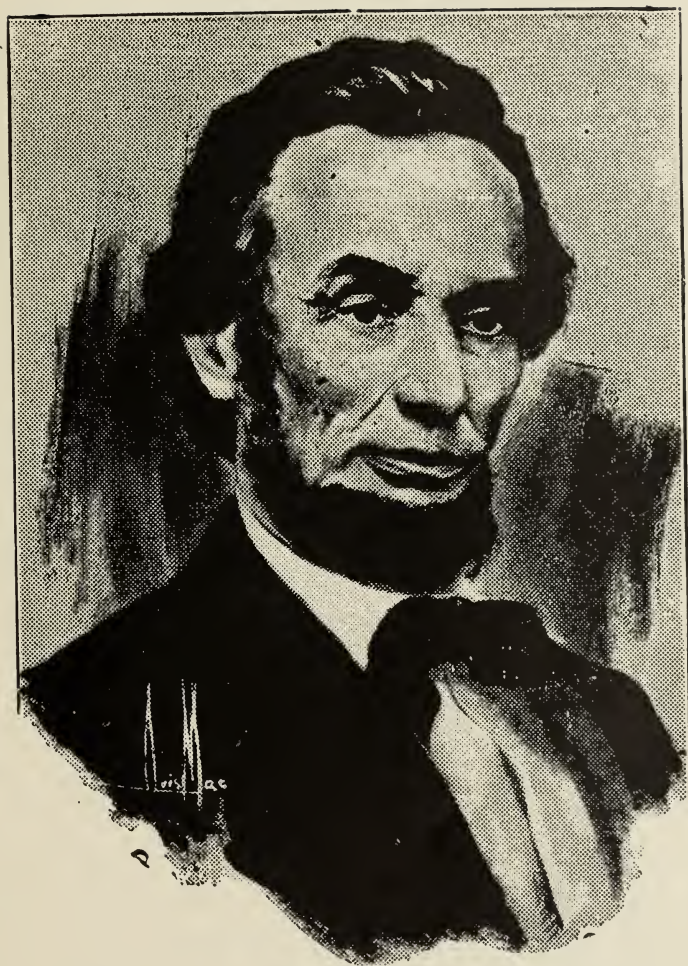
September 1, 1931

LINCOLN ROOM
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY

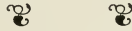


MEMORIAL
the Class of 1901

founded by
HARLAN HOYT HORNER
and
HENRIETTA CALHOUN HORNER



B R I E F



Prepared by the

*Warrick County Lincoln
Route Association*

and presented to and filed with the

Indiana Lincoln Memorial High-
way Commission

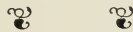
appointed by the Governor,
to aid said Commission
in determining the

CORRECT ROUTE


over which

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

and his family travelled when they moved
from Indiana to Illinois in 1830.



Brief prepared by William L. Barker, Philip Lutz,
Jr. and Union W. Youngblood for and on behalf of
said Warrick County Lincoln Route Commission.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012 with funding from
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

<http://archive.org/details/brief00warr>

FOREWORD

The Lincoln Highway Commission, Joseph M. Cravens and Jesse Weik, appointed by Governor Ralston in 1915, filed its report with the Governor on December 15, 1916, wherein it decided that the Lincoln Route through Indiana was from Troy on the Ohio River to where they settled near where the Town of Gentryville now is and that when they "bade farewell to their cabin home near Gentryville in March, 1830, they moved northward through Dale to Jasper, thence northwestwardly through the villages of Ireland, Otwell, and Algiers to Petersburg, at or near which place they crossed White River and then pushed on to Vincennes, by the most direct route."

(Lincoln Highway Commission's report to Governor Ralston, page 17.)

This report was by the Governor submitted to the Indiana Legislature at its 1917 session for its approval but the Legislature, after a thorough investigation of original evidence, considered the route set forth therein so erroneous that it refused and failed to approve said report and the matter has, since that time, remained dormant until the appointment of the present "Indiana Lincoln Memorial Highway Commission" by Governor Leslie.

The Warrick County Lincoln Route Association contends that the part of said report that says the migratory route of the Lincolns from their home near Gentryville was North through Dale to Jasper and thence northwestwardly through the villages of Ireland, Otwell and Algiers to Petersburg is clearly erroneous and should not be followed or

approved by the present Memorial Commission for the reasons fully set forth in this brief.

The tradition that Abraham Lincoln and his father's family, when they migrated from their home in Spencer County to Illinois in 1830, travelled West over the road known as the Boonville-Corydon road through Jonesboro, past Jones' store to Boonville and thence North over the Boonville and Petersburg Road to Petersburg and thence from Petersburg to Vincennes is of such long standing and of such widespread and general belief in Warrick County and also among the citizens of the community where the Lincolns lived previous to such migration that the citizens of Warrick County sincerely and earnestly believe that it would be an unwarranted miscarriage for the Indiana Lincoln Memorial Highway Commission appointed by the Governor to establish said line of migration or travel over any other route and, therefore, the citizens of Warrick County organized the Warrick County Lincoln Route Association for the purpose of gathering evidence upon which said long-standing tradition is founded and we submit the same herewith for the candid consideration of said Commission with abiding faith that said Commission will be convinced when they have completed their investigation that the true route over which the Lincolns actually travelled in said migration is over the route above suggested and that said Commission will so determine.

THE RECORD EVIDENCE

We presume that the first inquiry of the Memorial Commission will be as to what roads were available and the most practical and probable for wagon travel from the site where the Lincolns lived in 1830 to the Illinois boundary line at or near Vincennes. In this inquiry we must remember that all of Southern Indiana in 1830 was covered with primeval forest, except here and there along the navigable streams where the early settlers had cleared a part of the forests and established civilized settlements and, while many trails for pedestrians and horseback travel lead from one settlement to another, there were very few of the trails that had been cut out and used to such extent that they were fit for wagon travel.

The Legislature in those early days, by legislative enactments, established all roads running into and through more than one county; while the Board of Justices of the various counties established and laid out all roads within the borders of their respective counties. That there was a well-defined and much used wagon road known as the Boonville and Corydon Road that ran Westward past the home of the Lincolns and through Jonesboro in Spencer County, crossing Pigeon Creek just West of Jonesboro and thence continuing West past the settlement know in those days as Loafer's Station in Warrick County, two miles North of where the Town of Tennyson now is; thence continuing West veering to the Southwest to Boonville, the county seat of Warrick County, is shown by the following record evidence:

John B. Kelley is appointed Supervisor of the Corydon Road leading from Boonville and to commence at the Public

Square in Boonville and the hands that worked under Francis M. Ashley to assist in keeping said road in repair.

Dated May 2, 1825. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 344.

William Gentry, Sr., is appointed Supervisor of that part of the Corydon Road formerly worked by Henry Hart, which begins near John Phillips' land and extends to the Spencer County line, and shall have assigned him all the hands that worked under Henry Hart.

Dated September 5, 1825. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 347.

John B. Kelley is appointed Supervisor of the Corydon Road from Boonville to Barren Fork. (The boundaries of the road hands are here named.)

Dated May 1, 1826. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 364.

James Gentry is appointed Supervisor of the Corydon Road from dividing ridge to the Spencer County line. (The boundaries of the road hands are here named.)

Dated May 1, 1826. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 364.

Ordered that Joseph Phillips, Sr., be and he hereby is appointed Supervisor on the Corydon Road commencing at Boonville and ending at the Barren Fork. (Here the individual names of hands allowed him are set out.)

Dated May 3, 1830. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 460.

Ordered that George Binkley be and hereby is appointed Supervisor on the Corydon Road commencing at the dividing ridge East of John Phillips' old place on said road

and ending at the county line dividing Spencer and Warrick Counties. (The boundaries of the road hands are here named).

Dated May 3, 1830. Warrick Board of Justices Record, page 461.

The record evidence as to the existence of a well defined and used wagon road from Boonville North to Petersburg in 1830 is as follows:

Act of the Legislature of Indiana approved December 31, 1821. (Acts 1821, page 152.)

Section 5

That a road from Mount Prospect on the Ohio River thence through Boonville, thence to Petersburg in Pike County be and the same is hereby established in length fifty miles and that the sum of three thousand five hundred and eleven dollars and twenty-three cents be and the same is hereby appropriated to the opening the same and John McCord and George W. Tevault, of the County of Warrick, and Isaac Montgomery, of the County of Pike, be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to view, mark and lay out the same.

The following is a true and correct copy of the report of Chester Elliott, surveyor of Warrick County, recorded in Deed Record 1 at pages 45 and 46 in the Recorder's Office of said county, dated April 16, 1822:

Field notes and protraction of a road beginning at the Town of Mount Prospect (alias) Sprinklesburg on the Ohio River; thence running through the Town of Boonville in the County of Warrick to the Town of Petersburg in the County of Pike, beginning at the corner of Water and

Monroe Street; thence North 88 degrees; East 8 chains, 61 links (Here follows in the instrument, as recorded, the courses and distances of the survey finally ending as follows:) to the line dividing the counties of Warrick and Pike.

Deed Record 1, pages 45 and 46, Warrick County, Indiana.

Elijah Boyd is appointed Supervisor on the state road commencing at the South end of the crossway at Big Creek and ends at the bridge on Otter Creek. (The boundary of the road hands is described.)

Dated May 2, 1825. Board of Justices Record, page 342.

Tubby Bloyd is appointed Supervisor on the same road only to Big Creek Elijah Boyd had and allowed the hands which were in Boyd bounds and the bounds to be enlarged to extend to Big Creek and Isaac Fleener's hands shall assist Bloyd hands to repair the crossway from Big Creek to the foot of the hill South of it.

Dated May 7, 1827. Board of Justices Record, page 389.

Isaac Fleener is appointed Supervisor on the state road from Big Creek to the 23d mile post towards Petersburg and allowed all the hands who worked under Frances South of a line from the old school house to John Barker's and the place in the Rough near the head of Big Creek.

Dated May 7, 1827. Board of Justices Record, page 390.

Littleberry Richardson is appointed Supervisor on the state road from the 23rd mile tree to the Pike County

line; also the Princeton Road from the Forks to the Gibson County line and allowed all the hands North of a line drawn from the old school house to John Barker's old place in the Rough at the head of Big Creek.

Dated May 7, 1827. Board of Justices Record, page 390.

Ordered by the Board that James McMurtry be and he is hereby appointed Supervisor on the Petersburg Road, commencing at the 23rd mile post and ending at the Pike County line on Petersburg Road and at the Gibson County line on the Princeton Road and that the same hands that worked under the former Supervisor with the addition (here follows certain other names of hands.)

Dated May 5, 1828. Board of Justices Record, page 413.

Ordered that Isaac Fleener be and he is hereby appointed Supervisor on the Petersburg Road beginning at the South end of the crossway on the South side of Big Creek. (Here boundaries of the road hands are described.)

Dated May 5, 1828. Board of Justices Record, page 414.

Ordered that Joseph Hunsaker be and he is hereby appointed Supervisor on the state road commencing at the South end of the bridge on Otter Creek and ending at the south end of the bridge on Big Creek and that he have the following hands, to-wit: The same hands living in the boundaries heretofore set off to Tubby Bloyd, the former Supervisor.

Dated May 3, 1830. Board of Justices Record, page 463.

Ordered that Joseph Rice be and he is hereby appointed Supervisor on the state road commencing at South end of the bridge on Big Creek and ending at the 23rd mile post on said road. (Here the hands that he is entitled to work are set out.)

Dated May 3, 1830. Board of Justices Record, page 464.

Viewers were appointed by the Board of Justices of Pike County to locate on the best ground all that part of the road, known as the Mt. Prospect, Boonville and Petersburg Road, that lies in Pike County.

November Term, 1820

Pike County Board of Justices Record A, page 107.

The Pike County Board of Justices ordered the Mt. Prospect, Boonville and Petersburg Road cut out according to the viewers report.

May Term, 1821

Pike County Board of Justices Record A, page 114.

Other similar records of appointments of Supervisors on these two roads during the same period could be shown but we think the above records are enough to show that the roads in question were prior to 1830 good wagon roads and we do not deem it necessary to encumber this brief with copies of the records of all such appointments.

The Town of Boonville was established and laid out as the county seat of Warrick County in 1818.

The Indiana Gazetteer published by John Scott, publisher, 1826, describes the Town of Boonville as follows:

“Boonville, seat of Justice of Warrick County, is situated near the center of said county on the head water of

Cypress Creek. It is a flourishing village and contains several stores and inns and mechanics of various professions."

During all the time that the Lincolns lived in Indiana, there was a little village known as Jonesboro located about one mile West of where the Town of Gentryville now stands and about two and one-half or three miles West of where the Lincolns lived. The general store for that settlement was in Jonesboro and was established and maintained and operated by William Jones, who was afterwards killed in the Civil War, while serving as Colonel. It was at his store that Lincoln served as Clerk while he lived in Indiana. He also worked some for Mr. Jones on his farm adjacent to said store.

The Town of Gentryville was not in existence at the time the Lincolns left Indiana. When the Lincolns left their old home to go to Illinois they came West on the above mentioned Boonville and Corydon Road to this Jones Store and were there met by a number of their old neighbors to bid them good-bye.

Abraham Lincoln, at this store, at that time purchased a supply of small articles to sell and trade on their way across the country to Illinois.

They left this store and went West toward Boonville on said Boonville and Corydon Road and several of the neighbors went with them as far as Pigeon Creek which was about one-half mile West of Jones' store and after seeing them safely across this creek the neighbors returned to their respective homes. The Lincolns continued westward on said road to Boonville; thence North up the Boonville

and Petersburg Road to Petersburg and thence from Petersburg to Vincennes.

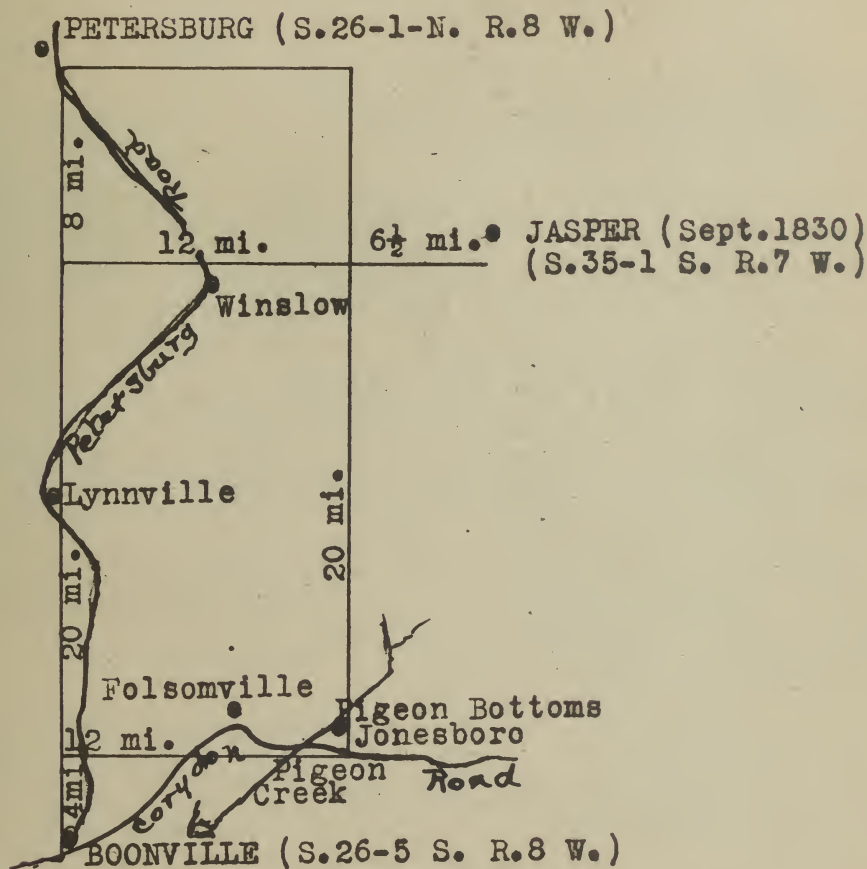
At the time the Lincolns left Indiana to go to Illinois in 1830, there was no wagon road over which the Lincolns could have travelled North from their home settlement nor from Jonesboro and the only practical wagon road for them to travel with their heavily loaded wagon drawn by two ox teams was West on the Corydon and Boonville Road to Boonville and then North on the old Boonville and Petersburg Road to Petersburg. These facts are substantiated and established by the letters and affidavit evidence hereinafter set out.

The mere fact that the Legislature had established on paper the road leading from Rockport in Spencer County North to Portersville in Dubois County, which was a town on the East fork of the White River, and thence on North to Bloomington is not in itself sufficient evidence to show that said road had been cut out and used as a wagon road nor is the fact that a mail route was established over said trail from Rockport to Portersville and thence to Washington in 1825 sufficient evidence upon which to predicate a finding that said road was cut out and used as a wagon road.

Frequently, in fact practically always, in those early days, mail was carried from one settlement through the primeval forest to some other settlement over a mere horse-back path or Indian trail.

The land title records show that practically all of the land between old Jonesboro in Spencer County and Boonville in Warrick County along the Boonville and Corydon Road and between Boonville and Petersburg along the Boonville

WASHINGTON : 5 miles east and 11 miles north
 (S.34-3 N. R.7 W.) of Petersburg; and 18 miles
 north and 13 miles west of
 Jasper.



SCALE: 1 inch = 8 mi.

SANDERS PAYNE, Engineer

COUNTY: THE AREA EX. RIES AREA IN THE STATE OF TEXAS
 TO THE STATE OF TEXAS, 1950
 D E S O I S



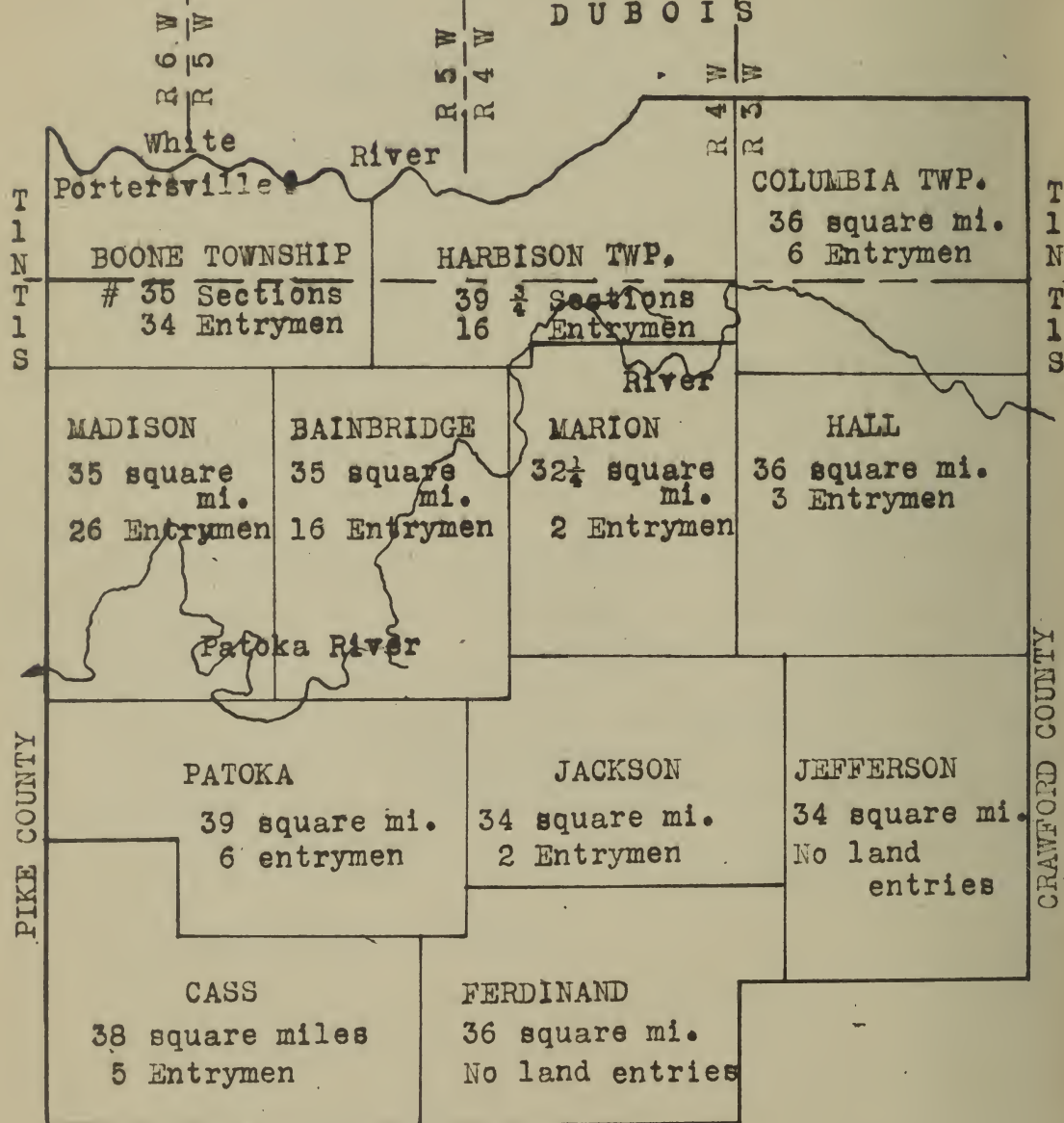
Scale 1 inch = 10 miles

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

SHOWING THE LAND ENTRIES MADE IN DUBOIS COUNTY, INDIANA

UP TO MARCH 10th., 1830

DUBOIS



WARRICK

SPENCER COUNTY

Scale 1 inch = 4 mi.

SANDERS PAYNE, Engineer

and Petersburg Road had been taken up and entered of record by settlers prior to 1830.

At the time the Lincolns left Indiana, the town site of Jasper was public domain. Joseph Eulen, or Enlen, entered the West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 1 South, Range 5 West, 80 acres on March 12, 1830. (Dubois County Tract Book, page 174.) The town plat of Jasper was laid off on the North half of the above 80 acres in September, 1830. (Dubois County Town Plats, page 5.)

Elizabeth (now Dale) was laid off April 26, 1843. (Spencer County Record of Town Plats.) Therefore, neither the Town of Jasper nor Elizabeth (now Dale) existed at the time the Lincolns left Indiana. At that time, March, 1830, Portersville on the White River, a little West of North of where Jasper now is, was the county seat of Dubois County. According to the Cravens and Weik report to Governor Ralston, filed December 15, 1916, the first mention of Jasper as being on a mail route was in 1834.

The land office records show but very few entries of land were ever made between the settlement at Portersville South to the Spencer County line prior to 1830.

It is a well-known historic fact that Thomas Lincoln belonged to Little Pigeon church of the Regular Baptist denomination near his home in Spencer County, Indiana, and that there was also a church of the same denomination known as Little Zion church on the Corydon Road between their home and Boonville and also a church of the same denomination on the Boonville and Petersburg Road between Boonville and the Pike County line and, in those early days, the members of these various churches belonged to the same association and the association meetings were attended by practically all of the members of each church and, in that way, the members became well acquainted with each other, and, therefore, it is reasonable to believe, in connection with some of the affidavits hereinafter set out, that Thomas Lincoln knew he had acquaintances along the two roads above mentioned.

We sincerely and earnestly insist that, if there were no other evidence than the record evidence hereinabove cited, any reasonable mind would be convinced thereby that the Lincolns travelled the well established highways westward from their home to Boonville and North from Boonville to Petersburg, which roads, as the records show, had been, for many years, worked under competent Supervisors appointed by public authority and the principal creeks had been bridged.

It was very important to the Lincolns, travelling, as they did, with a heavily loaded wagon drawn by two ox teams, to select the very best wagon road available for their travel. Had they been going on horseback or as pedestrians they might have taken a shorter and more direct route over some bridle path or Indian trail.

AFFIDAVIT EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE WARRICK COUNTY ROUTE

We are not forced to rely upon the record evidence alone, however, but have an abundance of reliable testimony in the form of letters and affidavits to substantiate our contention that the Lincolns went through Warrick County on their way to Illinois.

We call the Committee's attention to one salient feature of our affidavit evidence and that is this:

That all of the testimony coming from the people around and near Lincoln's home and what is now Lincoln City and Gentryville with one accord and without a dissenting voice say that the Lincolns went by the Jones store and from there westward toward Boonville when they started to Illinois and many of them state that there was no wagon road leading North from that community at that time; while about the only affidavit evidence that the people on the so-called Jasper route have is by people who live along the route. In this respect we suggest that it would have been a very easy matter for some of those old settlers along the route to have remembered certain family groups of migrants and then, without actually knowing who they were, after Abraham Lincoln became famous, to have concluded it was the Lincoln group that passed their way and to have handed the legend down to their descendants; while the affidavits from the people along the route running to Boonville and thence North to Petersburg were acquaintances of the Lincolns and knew them. Most of the affidavits we submit were executed in 1915 during the existence of the Lincoln Highway Commission appointed by Governor Ralston, which was eighty-five years after the Lincolns left Indiana and, of course, it was then impossible to find anyone

old enough to remember the facts concerning the starting of the Lincolns on that migration and we are forced to rely upon statements of the children of the people who lived near the Lincolns at that time as to what their parents and others had told them about the matter. It can not possibly make any difference to the people who live in and near Lincoln City and Gentryville as to where the proposed Lincoln Route is located for whichever way it goes it starts from their locality. They are, therefore, disinterested witnesses.

There is no more reason for them to state that the Lincolns came West by Boonville than there is for them to state that they went North towards where Jasper is now, except that they desire to tell the truth about the matter.

Briefly summarized the evidence collected by the Warrick County Lincoln Route Association and hereinafter set out, in addition to the above record evidence, shows that on the eve of their departure from Indiana the Lincoln emigrants loaded their household goods into a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen and went to the home of James Gentry where they spent the night. They were late in arriving at the Jones store in Jonesboro the next morning and Abraham Lincoln explained to the neighbors who were assembled there to bid them good-bye, that one of the oxen strayed off in the night and he had to go to David Turnham's after it. Abraham Lincoln had clerked in the Jones store, and it was here that he bought thirty-six dollars worth of needles, pins, thread, buttons, and other small articles of domestic use that he peddled along the way. The site of Jonesboro is still marked by the brick residence of Colonel William Jones; it is about three miles west of the Lincoln farm, on the Boonville and Corydon road. Many of their friends and neighbors accompanied the emigrants a

short distance from the store to the ford at Little Pigeon Creek. Mrs. Lincoln was afraid of the water and Massa (Masterson) Clark, who with others was waiting on the Warrick County side of the creek, rode his horse over, took Mrs. Lincoln up behind him and safely carried her over the ford. Their Warrick County friends then saw them safely across Polkberry Creek. At the spring near Little Zion Baptist Church on the John Phillips farm, and on the Boonville and Corydon road, the movers stopped to go into camp for night. Edmund Phillips, a son of John Phillips, saw the party there and notified his father, who sent Edmund back to invite them to come to his house and stay without cost, which they did. After Lincoln's election Edmund Phillips often boasted that he had one time entertained the President of the United States.

Farther west on the Boonville and Corydon road, a white oak tree became famous as marking the spot where the Lincolns stopped to rest their oxen.

At the close of the Civil War, George W. Carey, then quite an old man, asked his nephew, George W. Roberts, a returned soldier, if he had ever seen Abe Lincoln; at Mr. Robert's reply in the negative, Mr. Carey said that he could have seen him in Boonville had he known that he was with the party of movers passing through the town.

Going north from Boonville, on the Petersburg road, Abraham Lincoln stopped at the farm house store of Sol Turpen and sold several articles, among others a pocket-book within which was a label bearing the name "A. Lincoln, Agent." This pocketbook was found behind a window casing many years afterward when the house was torn down.

The Lincolns spent the second night with Joseph

Lankford; his home farm was about three and one-half miles north of Boonville on the Petersburg road. Previous to his settlement in Warrick County, Mr. Lankford had lived near the Lincoln farm in Spencer County, and had been a member of the Little Pigeon Baptist church, of which Thomas Lincoln was also a member.

At the farm of Arthur Thompson in Pike County, the Lincolns stopped for water; Mr. Thompson, a Baptist, laid off the town of Arthur on part of his farm.

These brief statements are supported by affidavits and written communications which were all published during the year 1915 in the Boonville Standard, covering about thirty-six newspaper columns.

Mr. William Fortune of Indianapolis, who in the year 1880, went with General James C. Veach to Spencer County to interview surviving friends of the Lincolns, wrote to W. L. Barker, of Boonville, Indiana, under date of December 4, 1925, as follows:

Your facts on the subject of the Lincoln Route should at least be given the chance for preservation in the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society's records.

I am convinced that your information is correct and this is supported by such testimony as I gathered. I particularly asked some of the old residents of Gentryville in what direction the Lincolns travelled when they started from there to Illinois. They answered unhesitatingly and very positively that "they went that way," pointing down the road that led towards Boonville. I certainly do not believe they went by way of Jasper. I hope you will add your informa-

tion regarding the route to your other excellent historical contributions.

Doctor William E. Barton, to whom, in Indianapolis, W. L. Barker had spoken of the Lincoln Way on the eve of his departure for his trip around the world, wrote said W. L. Barker, from Calcutta, India, "I could wish the Boonville Standard would assemble all these letters of 1915 and reprint them in a supplement or pamphlet; they will be of permanent interest."

Mrs. W. E. Squires, wife of the county commissioner from the first district, Spencer County, under date of February 10, 1915, wrote from Rockport to J. W. Richardson, as follows:

I write you in regard to the letter in the Courier of Lincoln's route to Illinois. I have heard my grandfather, James Gentry, (playmate of Abe Lincoln) tell that when the Lincoln family left for Illinois that the Gentry family went as far as Pigeon Creek and there bade them goodbye, and that the Lincoln family went by way of Boonville. I thought perhaps this letter might be some help.

The Reverend Jefferson W. Richardson, to whom this was addressed, testified before the Ralston Commission at Winslow in 1916 that he believed "the Lincolns went by way of Boonville and Lynnville; because Nicholas Anderson Hanks lived at the site of Lynnville, and those old Baptists, —us Baptists, are not like other people, we stick together."

On April 2, 1915, George McClelland wrote:

My mother was personally acquainted with Abe Lincoln and admired him very much, as she bought goods from him when he was in a store, and I have heard her say when they went to leave Gentryville the few settlers around

there gathered in and bid them goodbye and some went part of the way with them on the road. I have heard her say time and again that they went by the way of Boonville, Indiana.

On March 18, 1915, the Reverend Ira Broshears, of Hunter, Virginia, wrote:

Just at the close of the war of 1861-65, I was county surveyor in Spencer County, and surveyed lands in the vicinity of the Lincoln home—one line as I recall it was the south line of the Lincoln tract, and quite close to Mrs. Lincoln's grave, which was reverently visited.

While in that locality, I talked with some of the oldest citizens in regard to the Lincoln family and it rests upon my mind that they said that the Lincolns went by way of Boonville.

Professor Charles E. Skinner writes that his grandfather, Arthur Thompson, was an early settler and laid out the town of Arthur, Pike County, Indiana, on his farm; that his grandfather had frequently said the Lincolns, when moving to Illinois, had stopped at his house for water, and they came from the south on the only road leading to Boonville. His grandfather was a Baptist.

Below appear copies of affidavits in further support of the contention that the Lincolns went by way of Boonville.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM JONES

State of Indiana, }
Spencer County. }ss:

I, William Jones, being duly sworn, upon my oath depose and say that I was born on the 23rd day of May, 1843,

in Spencer county, Indiana, the son of Colonel William Jones, who was killed in the battle of Atlanta on the 22nd day of July, 1864; that my Father was born January 5th, 1800, at Fort Vincennes, Indiana. My grandfather was a Scotchman and put up the first hotel at Vincennes, Indiana, and it was known as the "Jones Box."

My father and Abraham Lincoln were very intimate friends and were both Whigs, and Abraham Lincoln worked for my father in the store at Jonesboro, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of where Gentryville now stands. The last winter he worked in the store Abraham Lincoln cut pork for my father in his store.

I served in the Union army in the Civil War and was advanced to the position of Captain and have ever since the war been commonly known as Captain Jones. I have now in my possession a gold handled sword and scabbard which cost \$250.00 and which was given to my father by the citizens of this community.

My father remained a Whig until after Lincoln was nominated for President and then he took the stump and made speeches for Lincoln in Spencer, Warrick, Pike and Perry counties in Indiana. In 1844 Abraham Lincoln was an elector on the Whig ticket in Illinois, when Clay was a candidate on the Whig ticket for president, and during that campaign he made a visit to Spencer county, Indiana, coming first to Rockport, where my father, William Jones, was engaged in some court proceeding in the court house, and when court adjourned my father went to Lincoln and shook hands with him, and then before the crowd dispersed my father called the people to order and announced that "The Honorable Abraham Lincoln, candidate for elector at large in Illinois, would address the people of Rockport that night on the political issues of the day," and when asked by Lincoln by what authority he made this announcement, my father struck his own breast and said, "by this authority." After this meeting Lincoln came the next day with my father to Jonesboro, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of what is now Gentryville, and stayed over night with my father, and while there I sat on his lap, and the next day he made a speech a short distance east of the old Lincoln home where Lincoln City now stands.

Jonesboro was the postoffice and was named after my father's store, which was the only store and the only post-office in this community at that time.

At that time the country was very sparsely settled

and there were very few roads in this community.

The main roads at this place at the time the Lincolns left Spencer county for Illinois were the Newburgh and Corydon road running west through Boonville by way of what is now Folsomville, and the one running south to Rockport.

At the time the Lincolns moved to Illinois there was no passable road from this community leading north, and some time after this my father, William Jones, was appointed to throw up a road from what is now Gentryville toward Dale, across Pigeon bottoms, which at that time was impassable and very swampy, and he was given authority to call out for that purpose all men living within six miles of this road. I think this appointment was made by the Legislature.

While my father was stumping the country for Lincoln in the campaign of 1860, I went with him and drove for him and took care of the horse, and it was during this time that my father told me all about his relations with the Lincolns and what he knew about them, and I frequently heard him tell to those with whom he electioneered of his dealings and acquaintance with Abe Lincoln, and heard him frequently say that Abraham Lincoln had worked for him in the store, and that he bought hogs and sold pork, and that Abraham Lincoln helped butcher the hogs and cut up the pork for him. The only markets in those days for this community were Rockport and Newburgh, and the road to Newburgh led by way of Boonville and through where the town of Folsomville now stands. And I frequently heard my father tell about the Lincolns leaving here for Illinois and he said at that time the Lincolns lived where Lincoln City now stands, about two miles east of where Gentryville now stands; that they drove an ox team and came by his store, about three-fourths of a mile west of where Gentryville now stands, and stopped there and Abraham Lincoln bought \$36.00 worth of trinkets and small articles, including a set of knives and forks to peddle on his way to Illinois, and several months thereafter my father received a letter from Abraham Lincoln saying that he had doubled his money on these articles.

On the morning they started, a crowd had gathered at the store to bid the Lincolns goodbye and when the Lincolns arrived my father remarked to them that they were late, and Abraham Lincoln explained why he was late by saying that one of the oxen during the night had strayed off and he had to hunt him and he found him about 2½

miles north at David Turnham's and this had caused the delay. My father said the Lincolns left going west on the Boonville and Corydon road, and several of the neighbors, including my father, went with them as far as Pigeon creek, and at this place they bade them goodbye and saw them ford Pigeon creek and start on their way westward on this said Boonville road. The wheels of the wagon in which they moved were what we call truck-wheels, e. g., solid without spokes, and were sawed from the ends of large logs. My father said on account of the low wheels of the wagon Mrs. Lincoln was taken across Pigeon creek on a horse behind one of the neighbors.

While with my father, on one of his trips in the campaign of 1860, in returning home from Winslow we came to the forks of the road where one branch turned eastward and the other branch went southward and at that point we met a gentleman about my father's age and he came up the road that ran southward and my father asked him what road that was, and he said to my father that "this is the Petersburg and Newburgh road and leads through Boonville," and that in the conversation the gentleman said that this road came up from Boonville and was the road that Lincoln traveled on his way to Illinois. In this conversation they were talking about politics and the gentleman said he was a democrat but that he believed Lincoln would be the best friend to the poor man, and that my father said for him to study this matter seriously and on election day vote for Abraham Lincoln. This gentleman, whose name I have forgotten, said that he lived south on this road and that the Lincolns in moving to Illinois passed by his house, and that this Boonville road was the road they went.

All the above information concerning the Lincolns and the condition of the country at the time they lived here I received from conversations with my father and by hearing him tell it to others. I have also heard other old citizens of this community relate in substance the same things.*

WILLIAM JONES.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of April, 1915

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

Substantially the same testimony was given by Captain Jones before the Ralston Lincoln Route Commission in 1915.

*Published in Boonville Standard April 23, 1915.

ALLEN GENTRY

Rockport, Indiana, July 28, 1915.

State of Indiana, }
Spencer county. }ss:

I, Allen Gentry, being duly sworn on my oath depose and say that I am now seventy-three years of age; a brother of Robert M. Gentry; that I was born in Gentryville, this county; that my father's name was James Gentry, son of James Gentry, Sr., who was born in North Carolina and moved to Kentucky, and in 1817 moved to Indiana and settled on a farm, from a part of which he afterwards laid out the town of Gentryville.

I have often heard my father tell of the pioneers and first settlers in the community of Gentryville. He said that Colonel William Jones settled just west of him about one mile on an adjoining farm and on the only road at that time running west, which road ran west by way of Boonville and on to the Ohio river at Newburgh. Colonel William Jones, on his said farm for several years in early days and up to the time Gentryville was laid out, kept a general store, which store was known as Jones' store, or Jonesboro, and was located about a mile west of where Gentryville now stands, and on this Boonville road. He hauled his produce to and his goods from Rockport, or from Newburgh by way of Boonville, these two places being his only shipping points at this time. To each of these places were their only main wagon roads at that time. My father said at that time Thomas Lincoln lived where the town of Lincoln City now stands; that the Grigsbys, Romines, Oskinses and a few others constituted their immediate neighbors. Mass Clark lived across Pigeon creek west of the Jones store in Warrick county, yet he was considered one of their near neighbors, and there were the Phillipses, who mostly lived across in Warrick county. They too were considered neighbors, for neighbors in those days did not live adjoining as now, but sometimes lived miles apart, and being acquainted and some of them being connected by church fellowship, and church relation, they would naturally go miles to visit and to neighbor with each other. And at this time the Jones store was the only store in that community and the settlers for miles around went there to trade, and it was their only postoffice, being given as Jonesboro postoffice, until Gentryville was afterwards laid out and then was changed to and moved to Gentryville.

My father said that he and Abe Lincoln were playmates and that Abe Lincoln was perhaps the best educated

young man in the community and for that reason often worked for Col. William Jones. . . . My father said that Abe also worked for his father and thereby an intimacy grew up between them that continued through life, for the Lincolns and Gentrys were fast friends. . . .

I frequently heard my father say that in 1830 when Abe Lincoln and his father, Thomas Lincoln, started to move to Illinois, they loaded their wagons the evening before and came over to his father's, James Gentry, Sr., and stayed over night, and the next morning they started on the journey westward on this Boonville road; that they stopped at the Jones store. . . . My father said that he went with them a part of their way the next day over into Warrick county west of Jones' store. At the Jones store he said quite a number of the neighbors had met in to bid the Lincolns goodbye, and that quite a number accompanied them west to the ford on Pigeon creek over into Warrick county, and there, when he bade Abe goodbye, Abe said that they were going by way of Boonville, as it was the only way they could go.

I also heard Mass Clark say that the morning the Lincolns started to Illinois he met them at the ford on Pigeon creek, which was between his house and the Jones store, and from there he went with them west on the Boonville road to Polkberry creek and saw them ford it, and there he bade them goobye, and they said they were going by way of Boonville, and they departed going west on the Boonville road.

I also heard my grandfather, James Gentry, Sr., tell of the Lincolns in 1830 moving to Illinois. He said that they loaded their wagons the evening before and came to his house, which stood near where Gentryville now stands, and stayed over night with him, and then he went with them the next day's journey over into Warrick county. He said they went by way of Boonville road and stopped at the Jones store. . . . He said that quite a number of the neighbors had met in at the store to bid them goodbye, and after the usual farewells the Lincoln party continued westward on this Boonville road, forded Pigeon creek into Warrick county, about a mile west of the Jones store, and then continued westward toward Boonville, and stopped the next night and went into camp on the farm of John Phillips, near Little Zion Baptist church, about one-half mile west of Loafer's Station, which was at that time located about two miles north of where the town of Tennyson now is, which farm is known as the Edmond Phillips farm, and Abraham

Lincoln here said he was going by way of Boonville, for it was the only way they could go with their wagons, and my grandfather said that after they stopped to camp he bade them farewell and returned home.

I have frequently heard my father . . . and other old settlers tell many interesting things in regard to Abraham Lincoln, but they always said that when the Lincolns moved from Indiana to Illinois in 1830, they went west from Jones' store by the way of Boonville, for at that time there was no other way to go, and at Boonville they could take the old Vincennes road, which was a state road and one of the best in the state at that time.*

ALLEN GENTRY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 28th day of July, 1915.

(SEAL) W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

My commission expires June 1, 1919.

At Lincoln City, October 11th, 1915.

Mr. Gentry also testified before the Lincoln Route Commission.

Erasures made my Robert M. Gentry July, 1926—Allen Gentry having denied the statement, before his death, which occurred recently, as to the Gentry's voting for Lincoln.—W. L. B.

Erasures made by Robert M. Gentry July, 1926.

*Affidavit published in the Boonville Standard of August 27th, 1915.

ROBERT M. GENTRY

Rockport, Ind., July 28, 1915.

State of Indiana, }
Spencer County. }ss:

I, Robert M. Gentry, being duly sworn, upon my oath depose and say that I am now 71 years old; that I was born in Gentryville, this county; that my father's name was James Gentry, the son of James Gentry Sr., who was born in North Carolina and moved to Kentucky, and then in 1817 moved to Indiana and settled on a farm, and from a part of the said farm he afterwards laid out the town of Gentryville, whence it derived its name.

My father said that in the year 1830 Col Wm. Jones lived just west of him about one mile on an adjoining farm, on the Boonville and Newburgh road, and at that time kept a general store, where he sold goods and bought in exchange produce which he hauled to Rockport, or Newburgh

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of May, 1915.

Henry F. Fulling, Notary Public.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 21, 1915.

JACOB OSKINS

From a statement made by Jacob Oskins, published in the Boonville Standard May 14th, 1915, we glean the following:

Mr. Oskins was in his seventieth year at the time this statement was made.

He says that at the time the Lincolns lived where Lincoln City now stands his father, James Gentry, Col. William Jones and John Romine and a few others were the settlers of that community and the immediate neighbors of the Lincolns. These old people always told him that the Lincolns went from there west by way of Boonville on their way to Illinois. Mr. Oskins says that he was well acquainted with these old settlers and used to work for John Romine who told him that at the time Tom Lincoln moved from here he owned 80 acres of land southeast of the Nancy Hanks park that he wanted to trade for a horse, but that Romine did not have a horse to spare or one that suited Lincoln. James Gentry had a young horse that suited Lincoln but Gentry did not want the land, and as he could not trade with Gentry he started to move away without disposing of the land. Gentry finding out that Romine wanted the land told Romine that he would sell him the horse on time and then he could trade it to Lincoln for the land and he could pay him for the horse later on. Romine took the horse and some money and a justice of the peace and followed the Lincolns and caught up with them down in Warrick County, at the farm of Edmund Phillips, where they had stopped to go into camp, and there he made the trade for the land, had the deed made, signed and acknowledged, bid the Lincolns goodbye, and returned back home the owner of the land.

Mr. Oskins also said that Tom Lincoln and his wife were members of the Pigeon Baptist church, which was on a part of, or near the farm of John Romine and one day while church was going on Abe Lincoln, who was then a young man, got upon a big stump down in Romine's orchard and began making a political speech and by the time church was over Abe had as big a crowd to hear him as there was up at the church. He said that Joseph Gentry, who told him of this, said it was as good a speech as he ever heard.

LOUELLA ASHLEY

I, Louella Ashley, say that I am the wife of Mat Ashley; that I live on the Boonville and Lynnville road about six miles north of Boonville, Warrick County, Indiana; that said farm is known as the old Solomon Turpen farm; that at the time we moved onto said farm there was an old log house where we now live, and when we tore down said house, we found an old pocket book behind the window casing up stairs, which we now have, and in which there was a very old yellowish paper pasted, on which was written, "A. Lincoln, Agent," and afterwards in talking with old lady Downs, who was a daughter of Solomon Turpen, she said that her father lived on that same farm from an early day until his death, and she had heard her parents say that they knew the Lincolns, and that they, on one occasion, had bought pocketbooks and tableware and other small articles from them, and as she remembered, it was when they were on their way to Illinois.*

LOUELLA ASHLEY.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 14, 1915.

ISAAC G. CISSNA

Boonville, Indiana, May 20, 1915.

Mr. W. E. Williams,
Boonville, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your inquiry, I will say: that I was born May 11, 1848, about six miles south of Polk Patch, now Selvin, Warrick County, Indiana, and for more than thirty years of my early life I lived within Polk Patch and for the remainder of my life I have lived in knowing distance of this little town, and I was intimately acquainted with the old people of that community in my early life and I never heard during that time any mention of any fort being built there, neither was there any fort there in my time.

As to the way the Lincolns went on their way to Illinois, I will say that about 1852 (?) I bought a horse from John Bates who lived in the neighborhood of where Lincoln City now stands, and after taking the horse home he got out and went back and Coll Gasaway and I went after him and we found the horse, it being late in the afternoon, Mr. John Chinn, who at that time lived in the old Lincoln house then where the town of Lincoln City now stands, he and I being very intimately acquainted in our boyhood days, insisted on us staying over night with him, which we did, and

SARAH GRAY

State of Indiana, } ss:
Warrick County. }

I, Sarah Gray, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am now in my 86th year, being born on March 4th, 1829, in Pigeon Township, Warrick County, Indiana, in the neighborhood of Little Zion Baptist church, and lived in that neighborhood all my life until the last few years. My father, Henry Hart, was born in Hancock county, Kentucky, in 1794, and came to Indiana and first settled on Anderson river in Perry county about 1812, but soon moved to Warrick county and settled on the farm now known as the Buck Gentry farm about 1815, where he lived for several years. My father was one of the pioneer Baptist preachers of this country. Neighbors were few and far apart, and our neighbors were Mass Clark, who lived near Pigeon creek on the Corydon road this side of where Gentryville now stands, and Joshua Edwards, who lived on the farm afterwards known as the George Powers farm on this said road; and John Leslie, who lived on what is now known as the Eb Hart hill, on this same road; and Zachery Skelton, who lived down in Skelton township. These were our nearest neighbors then and we would go that distance to log rollings, house raisings, and to sit up of nights with the sick as readily as people now go to those who live in sight.

My father was the pastor, or preacher for Pigeon Baptist church for more than 20 years of its early beginning and during that time Thomas Lincoln and his wife were members of that church, and he was very intimately acquainted with them, and he very frequently visited the home of Thomas Lincoln, and Thomas Lincoln was made one of the deacons of this Pigeon church, and in the absence of the pastor often acted as moderator of this church. Thomas Lincoln would often visit Little Zion Baptist church, which was located in our neighborhood in Warrick county and on a part of the farm of John Phillips. The said Corydon road ran through these two neighborhoods and nearby these two churches and was the road traveled in going from one church to the other. This was the only public road in that community at that time. On one occasion when my father was preaching in Pigeon church, Abe Lincoln went down below the church and got upon a stump and made a speech and it was not long until he had as large a crowd as there was at the church. I have heard my father

te'll this quite often to us children, for my father had seventeen children and twelve lived to have families.

I was acquainted with these old settlers mentioned herein and have been to their houses in my early days, and have heard them and my father talk of Abraham Lincoln, for they said that they were well acquainted with him in his boyhood days, and when he ran for president they would often mention how he did in his boyhood days, and what an outcome there had been in him, and they would often speak of something he did when a boy when he lived here in Indiana. On several occasions I heard my father and John Phillips speak of Abraham Lincoln, for my father and John Phillips were both members of Little Zion church and at that time my father had bought and moved on a farm immediately south of the farm of John Phillips, and the Little Zion church was about half way between their houses. On these occasions when they would speak of Lincoln they would tell about the Lincolns coming by there on their way to Illinois, and John Phillips said when the Lincolns were going into camp down near this Little Zion church he sent his son, Edmond Phillips, down and had them come up to his house and stay over night with him, and the next day they continued their course on toward Boonville on this Boonville road, for at that time there was no other western road to go through this way only by way of Boonville.

The town of Selvin, now in Pigeon township, this county, was formerly called Taylorsville, and prior to that it was called Polk Patch. I remember this very distinctly, but as to there ever being a fort established there I never knew of it, neither did I ever hear any of the old people in that community speak of it.

I give this as not just what I know but what I have heard these old first settlers say about these things in their time.*

SARAH GRAY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of April, 1915.

(SEAL)

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

My Commission expires May 1st, 1915.

*Published in the Boonville Standard of June 11, 1915.

ELIZABETH A. GOAD

State of Indiana, }
Warrick County, } ss:

I, Elizabeth Ann Goad, depose and say that I was born on the 9th day of April, 1835, on the farm known as

the Jackson Goad farm, about two miles north of Boonville. My father, Peter Goad, was born on the 1st day of January, 1806, in the state of Tennessee, and my mother, Dicy Smith, was born in Virginia on the 1st day of January, 1804. They were married in Tennessee and in January, 1829, came to Warrick County, Indiana, and settled on the above said farm, about two miles north of Boonville on the east side of the Boonville and Vincennes road, which runs north of Boonville through where the town of Lynnville is now located. When my father left Tennessee he started to go to Missouri and it rained every day the week they got into Indiana, and they had camped near where the Fuller Seminary school house now stands, and while there he got into conversation with one of the citizens by the name of John Campbell and he said to my father that he himself had just come back from Missouri, and that if my father should go on to Missouri he would never unload his wagon for it was so wet out there that they had raised nothing and that he had better stay here and raise a crop and if he did not like it here, then in the fall he could go on. Mr. Greenberry Dorsey at that time had built on the above said farm and he wanted to sell his interest and improvements on said farm to my father, and my father bought his interest in said farm, (on January 24th, 1829, see deed record 2, 232) and moved onto it and remained there until 1856, when he, on May 1st, 1856, bought from Abraham Thornburgh the farm where I now live (see D. R. 13-471.) which farm adjoins the north line of Boonville and the north addition of Boonville was laid out and platted on this farm, and my father lived here until his death on January 15th, 1892.

I lived with my father continuously from my birth until his death, and during that time I often heard him speak of the condition of this country when he first came here, and he said that the Newburgh and Corydon road, which ran in a northeasterly direction from Newburgh across the country, passing where Folsomville now stands, and the Yellowbanks and Vincennes road crossed near the northeast corner of the public square in Boonville. That the road called the Yellowbanks road is the road running in a southeasterly direction from Boonville and is the road now called the Owensboro road, for at that time Owensboro was called Yellowbanks by the river men, and Henderson was called Redbanks, and Rockport was called Highbanks. The Yellowbanks road north of Boonville was called the Vincennes road at that time, for that was the road traveled from here to Vincennes, where the government land office

was located to get their land titles from the government when they entered their lands. I have heard my father say that when he came here, hazel brush was growing in the main streets of Boonville, and these two roads above mentioned were the only public roads crossing here at this time. He said at that time the court house was a log house and no log in it was too large for a forestick, and it was located on or near the same spot where the present court house now stands. He said the first store in Boonville was kept by John A. Brackenridge and it was located on or near where the Matthewson Opera House now stands, and that it was what we call a general store. In 1866, after my father, Peter Goad, was 60 years of age, he and Nathan Pyeatt rode horseback to the Ozark mountains in Missouri and back. They went there to visit their kinfolk. Mr. Pyeatt had a sister and my father, a cousin, living there. The country was very thinly settled then and neighbors lived far apart as compared with the present time. I have heard my father say he had gone to Newburgh to help a neighbor raise a house, a distance of perhaps 15 miles. During his lifetime I have often heard my father speak of Abraham Lincoln and he always said that the Lincolns when on their way moving to Illinois came down the Corydon road from where they lived in Spencer County to Boonville, and then went up the Yellowbank and Vincennes road from Boonville, passed his farm and went on north by what is now Lynnville, for at that time he said Nick Hanks, who, as he remembered, was a cousin to Nancy Hanks, then lived near where Lynnville now stands, but he believed that Nick Hanks at that time lived across the line in Gibson County. He also said that the Lincolns stayed over night with Joseph Lankford, who at that time lived on the Glenn France farm in this neighborhood, and on this Boonville and Vincennes road about three miles north of Boonville. I have also heard during his lifetime, Joseph Lankford say many times that the Lincolns, when they were on their way moving to Illinois, stayed over night with him, and at that time he lived on a farm on this same Boonville and Vincennes road about three miles north of Boonville. I was also acquainted with Solomon Turpen during his lifetime and I have heard him say that at the time Abraham Lincoln and his father and family moved to Illinois from Indiana he lived on a farm about six miles north of Boonville, on what is now known as the Boonville and Lynnville road, and the Lincolns came by there on their way and he bought some articles from Abraham Lincoln which he was selling on his way.

*Given under my hand and seal this 30th day of April, 1915.

ELIZABETH A. GOAD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of April, 1915.

(SEAL) W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

*Published in Boonville Standard of May 21st, 1915.

Miss Goad also gave the Ralston Commission in 1915 oral testimony to substantiate the same statement as above affirmed.

MARY E. FLOYD

State of Indiana, }
Warrick County. }ss:

I, Mary E. Floyd, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am now 56 years of age and the wife of Jonathan Floyd; that I am the daughter of James Mundy and Susan (Lankford) Mundy, who were married in Kentucky; that my mother was the daughter of Joseph Lankford, who was born in Virginia; he then moved to Kentucky, and afterwards with his family moved to Spencer county, Indiana, in the neighborhood of Thomas Lincoln, and while there each family visited back and forth and a very friendly, intimate and hospitable relation grew up between these two families, and I believe that both families belonged to the same church in Spencer county, -Indiana, and that my grandfather's brother, James Lankford, was one of their preachers, and that Thomas Lincoln was made a moderator or leader of some kind in the church. This she said she remembered very distinctly, for during the time they lived in Spencer county, Indiana, both families attended this same church, and that one of her brothers was buried in the Lincoln graveyard where that church stood.

My mother said it was customary in those days to put bells on their stock when they turned them out so that they could find them when they wanted them, and that she could always tell they were coming for they came on horseback and that the Lincolns would always leave the bell on their horse and she could hear the bell quite a distance before they would get there. Thomas Lincoln would always bring his gun and then the men would hunt, as there was plenty of game in the woods, and these visits would generally last a day or two.

My mother said that while Thomas Lincoln yet lived in what is now Spencer county, my father, Joseph Lankford,

moved back to Kentucky, and during that time she was married in Kentucky, but in a short time my mother and father and grandfather, Joseph Lankford, with his family removed to Indiana and settled in Warrick county about three miles north of Boonville on the farm where Gene France now lives, and the old log house that he then lived in stood just north of where the Fuller Seminary school-house now stands, on the west side of the Boonville and Lynnville road, and while my grandfather, Joseph Lankford, lived in that house, Thomas Lincoln with his family and Abraham Lincoln, on their way moving to Illinois in about the year 1830, stopped about three miles north of Boonville and stayed over night with my grandfather, Joseph Lankford.

I have always lived with my mother, and she with me until her death in 1891, and during this time I have heard her frequently speak about Abraham Lincoln staying over night with her father, on his way to Illinois, and she would then speak of being personally acquainted with Lincoln and that when they lived in Spencer county they all attended the same church in their younger days.

*Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of April, 1915.

MARY E. FLOYD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of April, 1915.

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

My commission expires May 1st, 1915.

*Published in the Boonville Standard April 30, 1915.

BARTLEY INCO

State of Indiana, }
Spencer County. }ss:

July 28, 1915.

Rockport, Indiana

I, Bartley Inco, being duly sworn upon my oath depose and say that I am now 72 years old; that my wife was the daughter of James Grigsby, Sr., who was a brother of Aaron Grigsby, who married Sarah Ann Lincoln, the sister of Abraham Lincoln. I did very frequently hear my father-in-law, James Grigsby, Sr., speak of Abraham Lincoln and the Lincoln family, and he said he was at the burial of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's mother, and that they hauled her from the Lincoln home where Lincoln City now stands to where she was buried, on a sled. That Thomas Lincoln was a cabinet maker and carpenter, and helped

and did the carpenter work on the Baptist church about a mile south of where Lincoln City now stands, which was the first church built in Spencer county. The old Lincoln farm, at Lincoln City, was afterwards owned by James Gentry and he sold the Lincoln house to some parties in Chicago who wanted it for a relic.

I have often heard my father-in-law, James Grigsby, say that on the morning the Lincolns started to move to Illinois quite a number of the neighbors met at the Jones store, about one mile west of where the town of Gentryville now stands, to bid them goodbye, and that he and several of them went west on the Boonville road and saw them safely across Pigeon creek, and that Mass Clark and several others met them at the creek and went on west on said road and saw them safely across Polkberry Creek. That Abe Lincoln told them that they were going by way of Boonville for it was the only road that they could go with their wagons. My father-in-law said at that time there were only two main wagon roads that led from where Gentryville now stands. One ran to Rockport and one by way of Boonville to Newburgh. These were their only shipping points.

I have also heard Col. William Jones, who was the owner and keeper of the Jones' store, say that when the Lincolns started to move to Illinois they came by his store and he sold Abe some small articles and supplies, and he also said that Abe Lincoln often worked for him in his store and on his farm, and that Abe said when they were starting to move to Illinois that they were going by way of Boonville, and when they started from his store they went west on the Boonville road, for at that time there was no other western road that they could go with their loaded wagons.

I served in the Civil War for the Union, and Col. William Jones was my Colonel and I was present at the battle of Atlanta and saw him killed on the 22nd day of July, 1864. He was Colonel of the 53rd regiment of Indiana Volunteers, and from the time I was eight years old I was a neighbor to and acquainted with Colonel William Jones until the day of his death, and I have been in his store many and many a time and I heard him tell of Abe Lincoln so many times and he always said that when Lincoln moved to Illinois he went by way of Boonville.*

(My wife will testify to the same.)

BARTLEY INCO.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of July, 1915.

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

My commission expires June 1st, 1919.

*Published in the Boonville Standard August 20th, 1916.

Mr. Inco also testified before the Lincoln Route Commission at Lincoln City, October 11th, 1915.

JACOB CLARK

State of Indiana, }
Warrick County. }ss:

I, Jacob Clark, being duly sworn upon my oath depose and say that I was 64 years of age on the 10th day of April, 1915; that I am the son of Masterson Clark; that I was born in Warrick County, Indiana, about two miles west of Gentryville, where my father lived on a farm from his early days until his death; that the Boonville and Corydon road ran through this farm, and that I have heard my father say that on the day that Lincoln started to Illinois he went over to the Jones' store to bid them goodbye, and after they had bought some thread, needles, necklaces, breastpins, pocketbooks and other things to peddle on their way, they came west on the said Boonville and Corydon road, and he and Col. William Jones, James Gentry and others came with them to Pigeon creek and there they had to ford the creek, and then the Lincolns came on west, and Lincoln told him he was going by the way of Boonville, then to Lynnville, and from there to Vincennes, where he intended to cross the river into Illinois. I have also heard my father say that at the time that Lincoln ran for President in 1860, they had a Lincoln Glee club and the bed for the Glee Club wagon was made out of lumber taken out of the old Lincoln house which stood where Lincoln City now stands.

My father was well acquainted with Lincoln and was a great admirer of him. I also remember of hearing him tell of Lincoln borrowing a book and reading it until he became tired and sleepy, and then he stuck the book into a crack of the log house which they lived in and then he fell asleep and that night it rained and blew in and damaged the book and that Lincoln wanted to work for the owner to pay him for the damage done to the book. I have often, during his lifetime, heard my father tell the above and many other interesting things concerning Abraham Lincoln. My father's farm was only a short distance in War-

rick County west of the ford where the Boonville and Corydon road crossed Pigeon creek west of where Gentryville now stands. There was no Gentryville at that time, but Col. William Jones had a store on his farm about three quarters of a mile west of where Gentryville now stands, and this store was on this Boonville and Gentryville road, and at this store was the first postoffice in this community, called "Jonesboro." This road ran through my father's farm and in his lifetime I have often heard my father say that Abe Lincoln on his way to Illinois went down this road by the way of Boonville.

Given under my hand this 29th day of April, 1915.*

JACOB CLARK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of April, 1915.

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 14, 1915.

L. B. BARKER

Tennyson, Ind., May 10, 1915.

W. E. William, }
Boonville, Indiana. }ss:

Dear Sir:

In answer to your inquiry concerning the way that Linco'n went from Indiana to Illinois I will say: That I was born and lived until I was thirteen years old in the immediate vicinity of where the Lincolns lived at what is now Lincoln City, Indiana. My grandfather, Hardin D. Barker, was a member of the Pigeon Baptist church, the same church that Thomas Lincoln was a member of, which church is about a mile south of Lincoln City, Spencer county, Indiana, and I am a member of the Little Zion Baptist church, which church is located on the Boonville and Corydon road in Warr'ck County, Indiana, about two miles north of Tennyson, Indiana, and I have always been informed by my arcestors, that near this church, by a spring, is where the Lincolns went into camp the first night out on their way to Illinois, when Edmund Phillips took them up to his house and kept them over night. At that time Edmund Phillips was a young man and lived with his father, John Phillips, on the same farm that Edmund Phillips ever afterwards lived on until his death. At that time the Boonville and Corydon road ran through this farm, and does so yet. These same churches are now and have been for nearly 100 years in the same association. And through the acquaintances

and relationship of these two churches is one reason that caused the Lincolns to go this way. When I was 13 years of age my mother being a widow, married Elijah Phillips, son of the said Edmund Phillips, and we moved from near Lincoln City to Warrick county, and lived on a part of the Edmund Phillips farm, and through my ancestors, and also through the Phillips family, I have always been informed that the Lincolns came this way on their journey to Illinois. I can further say that I have always been a great admirer of Lincoln and for that reason have closely observed anything connected with the life of A. Lincoln.

I was present and helped to carry brick to lay the foundation of the first monument to the Nancy Hanks grave. I was also present when a part of the Lincoln home, in what is now Lincoln City, was torn away, and the sill to the porch was sawed and split into small sticks for souvenirs.*

Yours,

L. B. BARKER.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 14, 1915.

FRANCIS M. CARLISLE

State of Indiana, } ss:
Warrick County, }

Francis M. Carlisle; being duly sworn, upon his oath, says that he was born on the 11th day of August, 1844, and is now in his 71st year; that in his early days he knew John Phillips and his wife who was a Gentry before she was married to John Phillips; that he was well acquainted with his son, William Phillips, who married formerly a Powers and settled in Skelton township just south of the line between Owen and Skelton townships, just south of where Bethabara church is now located and on the south side of the Boonville and Corydon road, the road that runs now through Gentryville, Folsomville and went to Boonville. This said William Phillips was the oldest son of John Phillips and came here with his father from southeast Kentucky. He was also the oldest brother of Edmund Phillips, and he was some older than Abraham Lincoln, and he said he was well acquainted with Abe Lincoln, and his father, John Phillips and Thomas Lincoln were well acquainted, each being a member of the Baptist church. At the time the Lincolns moved from Indiana to Illinois, William Phillips said he lived at the above mentioned place on said Corydon and Boonville road, the said Corydon and Boonville road, about one mile southeast of where the town of Folsom-

ville is now, and being well acquainted with the Lincolns, they stopped to rest their oxen and he said they had one wagon that they had made themselves, and there was no iron used in making this wagon and Abe was quite entertaining, explaining how well he had built this wagon in his rude way without iron and in a rustic way, and he seemed to be very proud of his workmanship, and this wagon carried a heavy load. Its wheels were block wood, that is, wheels made by sawing off blocks from the end of a large log and then boring a hole in the center to place it on the axle. He said that Abe had two yoke of oxen to this wagon and two yoke to another wagon, and they stopped quite a while and let their oxen rest. He said that while resting there they stopped near a large white oak tree that stood west of his house on the south side of this Corydon-Boonville road, which tree he pointed out to me, which tree stood there until the last few years. While resting at this place they said they were moving to Illinois and were going west by way of Boonville, and he said they went on west on this said Boonville and Corydon road.

In my early days I lived with my brother, Pleasant P. Carlisle, who was a son-in-law of the said William Phillips and this threw me often in his company and he delighted in talking about Abe Lincoln, for William Phillips was a stalwart Republican and voted for Lincoln, while all his brothers were Democrats and were just as strong the other way .

When the civil war broke out I enlisted for the union in Company D, 42nd Regiment, Indiana Vols., and served four years until the end of the war and was in the Grand Review of the Army of the Cumberland at Washington, D. C., on May 24th, 1865. On the night that Lincoln was assassinated we were in camp near Raleigh, North Carolina. After I came home I bought land immediately across on the south side of this said Corydon and Boonville road from said William Phillips. He moved on the north side and lived in the neighborhood as long as he lived and we frequently talked about this and the way that Abe Lincoln went to Illinois, and I heard him tell this to myself and others quite a number of times after I settled there, and he always said that the Lincolns in moving from Indiana to Illinois came along this Corydon and Boonville road and went by way of Boonville to Illinois.

Given under my hand and seal this 30th day of April,
1915.*

F. M. CARLISLE.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of April, 1915.

(SEAL)

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 28, 1915.

Mr. Carlisle also testified before the Lincoln Route Commission at Lincoln City, on October 11th, 1915.

GEORGE W. ROBERTS

State of Indiana, } ss:
Warrick County.

I, George W. Roberts, Sr., being duly sworn upon my oath depose and say that I am now 67 years of age, that I enlisted as a private in the civil war of 1861, at the age of 15 years, and returned after the close of the war and met my uncle, George W. Carey, who if living now would be about 110 or 115 years old, I think, and he asked me if I had the pleasure of seeing Abraham Lincoln while I was in the army, but I never did see him. He asked me where I was when he was killed. I answered him, "at Nashville, Tennessee." He said they assassinated the greatest man that ever lived. He said I could have seen him once myself, when he and his parents were moving through Boonville, Indiana on their way to Illinois. I asked him which way they went, and he said they came from Gentryville, where they lived, and traveled by the way of Boonville, Indiana, but he said it was the least of his thoughts that a future President was in that crowd, as they moved through the town of Boonville. Since 1860 I have always lived in Warrick County, Indiana, and from 1860 to 1915, except the time I was in the war for the Union, and at two different times, nine years altogether, in Boonville I lived the remainder—45 years—in the town of Folsomville, Warrick County, Indiana, and during that time I have heard other old people of that community say that when the Lincolns moved to Illinois they came down the Corydon road by way of Boonville, for at that time there was no other available way to go.

Given under my hand this 29th day of April, 1915.*

GEORGE W. ROBERTS, SR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of April, 1915.

(SEAL)

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 7th, 1915.

Mr. Roberts testified before the Lincoln Route Commission at Lincoln City, October 11th, 1915.

JAMES W. PHILLIPS

State of Indiana, }
Spencer County. }ss:

I, James W. Phillips, being duly sworn, upon my oath depose and say that I am now 72 years of age; that for more than 20 years of my early life I was very intimately acquainted with Edmund Phillips, who was a cousin of my father. That the said Edmund Phillips married Annie Skelton, a daughter of Judge Zachariah Skelton, and after his marriage settled on a farm in Warrick county, Indiana, about two miles north of what is now the town of Tennyson, Indiana, and upon part of said farm was then and is now located the Little Zion church house of Regular Baptists. That the house in which Edmund Phillips lived on said farm, and in which he continued to live until his death is still standing and is located immediately on the north side of the Boonville and Corydon road, which runs east through Gentryville and through Lincoln City. And the house of Edmund Phillips was then and is now about one-half mile west of what is known in that community as the Rockport and Selvin road. That the said Phillips family and Skelton family were at that time, some of them, either members of, or regular attendants of the said Little Zion church. That as shown by the records of the Little Pigeon Regular Baptist church, which church house was then and is yet located about one mile south of the town of Lincoln City, Spencer county, Indiana; Thomas Lincoln was a member of that church, having joined it by letter on June 7, 1823 and remained a member of said church and was so at the time they moved to Illinois. I am now and have been for some time a member of the Little Pigeon church, and the tradition is that Thomas Lincoln did the carpenter work on the old church house, and that he made and burned the bricks and with them they built two chimneys, one to the east and one to the west end of the old church house.

Baptist churches are so organized and governed by practice that it is customary for churches to correspond with each other by sending some of their members from time to time as messengers to their sister churches of like faith to aid them in ordaining their deacons and elders, and to constitute new churches. And the general rule is that all the churches in a reasonable distance of each other are organized into an association by each church annually sending her delegates or messengers to meet with some one church and there transact any business that might concern the whole number. This practice necessarily kept the

members of one church acquainted with and on very hospitable and intimate relations with the members of each of the other churches. These practices caused the Lincolns and Phillipses to be acquainted and on very friendly terms. So when the Lincolns started on their journey from Indiana to Illinois it was nothing more than natural for them to go the most direct and familiar way, and this Corydon road running by their house west by the Jones' store and continuing on west by Edmund Phillips' and by Little Zion church, and on toward Boonville, was a way on which they had some acquaintances.

So, in after years, I frequently heard Edmund Phillips tell of the Lincolns on their way to Illinois stopping to go into camp down below and near his house and that he, being well acquainted with them, went down and had them come up and stay over night at his house with him, and that the next morning they continued on their journey west toward Boonville.

And that Edmund Phillips very frequently said that he had the honor of keeping one President over night, and that was Abraham Lincoln. And during the campaign of 1860 I heard Edmund Phillips say that if Abraham Lincoln was elected he would have the honor of keeping one president over night because he kept him one night as he was moving away from here on his way to Illinois, and at the time he kept Lincoln over night, he, the said Edmund Phillips, lived on his said farm about two miles north of Tennyson, on the Boonville and Gentryville road, which is the said Corydon road, in Warrick county, Indiana. And after the election of 1860 I often heard Edmund Phillips say then that he had kept one President over night, and that was Abraham Lincoln when he was on his way moving to Illinois.

Elijah Phillips, son of Edmund Phillips, and I were about the same age and ran together when we were young men, and I was at the said Edmund Phillips' frequently during my boyhood days. And after I returned from serving in the civil war of 1861 I lived near Edmund Phillips until 1883.

I was acquainted with a great many of the old residents who lived here when the Lincolns lived here and have always heard them say that when Thomas Lincoln left here with his family to move to Illinois they went west from Gentryville across Pigeon creek toward Boonville.*

JAMES W. PHILLIPS.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of April, 1915.

(SEAL)

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

My commission expires May 1, 1915.

*Published in the Boonville Standard April 23, 1915.

In its issue of May 14th, 1915, the Boonville Standard publishes the following statement of W. E. Williams:

Joseph L. Phillips told me that he was now 65 years of age and that he was the son of Joseph Phillips, who was the brother of Edmund Phillips, and that John Phillips was his grandfather, and that during the lifetime of his father he had heard him say that he knew Abe Lincoln when he was a boy, and that Abe Lincoln's father, Thomas Lincoln was a member of the Pigeon Baptist church in Spencer county, near the town of Lincoln City, and that some of the Phillips family were members of Little Zion Baptist church in Warrick County, Indiana, and that the families visited back and forth from one church to the other in association and in church capacity, and that a friendly feeling grew up between the members and the attendants of these two churches. These two churches were the then places of worship of these two neighborhoods respectively, and being only separated from each other by Pigeon creek, but where the Boonville and Corydon road crossed said creek there was a good ford, just west of where Gentryville now stands; that this Corydon road ran through each neighborhood east and west, and was the only road at that time from the Little Zion neighborhood in Warrick county to Gentryville or to Jones' store, or to Boonville. That at this time this road was their only outlet to market, and it went by way of Boonville to Newburgh on the Ohio river, where their goods were shipped by steamboat or by flatboat, and then from Newburgh hauled out up this road to the different settlements for several miles. That he had not only heard his father, Joseph Phillips, say, but had heard his uncle, Edmund Phillips, say that at the time the Lincolns moved to Illinois his father, John Phillips, lived on his farm in Warrick county, which farm included several acres, and he was then living on that part which was afterwards known as the Edmund Phillips farm, and on this farm the said Little Zion church was then and is yet located, and the Boonville and Corydon road ran through this farm. At that time Edmund Phillips was a boy, yet living with his father. That when the Lincolns came along on their way to Illinois and John Phil-

lips saw them going into camp down on the road near a certain spring nearby that remains there yet, he sent Edmund Phillips down to invite them up to the house to stay over night with him, which they did, and on the next day continued on their way westward on this said road toward Boonville. I have always lived in or near this Little Zion community. I am a member of that church myself and have been for several years. Edmund Phillips lived on that farm until his death, and whenever the subject was mentioned he and my father, Joseph Phillips, always said that Abraham Lincoln in moving to Illinois, went down this Corydon road by way of Boonville.

JAMES BLACKFORD

State of Indiana, }
Warrick County, }ss:

James Blackford being duly sworn upon his oath says that he is sixty-six years of age and has lived in Warrick County all his life, in Owen and Skelton townships of said county; that his father's name was Joseph Blackford and that his father died about four years ago, age eighty-four years; that this affiant frequently heard his father talking about the route which Abraham Lincoln and his father, Thomas Lincoln, and family took when they traveled from Gentryville to Illinois to make their home; that he heard his father say many times that Thomas Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln and the family started to camp near what is now Loafer's Station, which was about two and one-half miles from affiant's father's home; that his father frequently told this affiant that the Lincolns were preparing to camp within about a quarter of a mile of Edmund Phillips'; that the said Phillips learned they were going to camp near his home for the night and he went there and told them that they should come to his home and stay over night and it would cost them nothing, and that the Lincolns did stay with the said Phillips over night, and the next day started on their way towards Folsomville to travel through Folsomville to Boonville on what is known as the Gentryville, Folsomville and Boonville road; that they were preparing to camp near the said Phillips' on what was then and is now known as the Gentryville, Folsomville and Boonville road, and said Phillips lived upon said road; that the said Lincolns said they were going to spend some time in Boonville and then go towards Lynnville.*

JAMES BLACKFORD.

by way of Boonville, where he shipped his produce away to New Orleans or elsewhere and received goods in return. He said that these two places were their only shipping points, and that the two roads to these two points were the only wagon roads in that community at that time.

Mass Clark lived across Pigeon creek in Warrick County. Thomas Lincoln lived where Lincoln City now stands, and Lincoln City was afterward laid out on the farm Lincoln owned. The Grigsbys and Romines lived south of there. These, with a few others, were the only settlers in that community.

My father said that he and Abraham Lincoln were playmates but that Abraham Lincoln was some older, and that Abraham Lincoln frequently worked for Col. William Jones on his farm and in his store.

My father said that Abraham Lincoln also worked for his father, and when boys they were intimate friends and frequently together and a bond of friendship grew up between the Lincolns and the Gentrys that lasted during their lives. . . .

I have frequently heard my father say that in 1830, when Thomas Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln started to move to Illinois, they loaded their house furniture and other things and came over to his father's home, James Gentry, Sr., who lived then where the town of Gentryville now stands, and stayed that night with him, and the next morning the Lincolns started on their way moving to Illinois, and that they went on the Boonville road by Col. William Jones' store, where they stopped, about a mile west of where Gentryville now stands. . . .

My father said that quite a number of the neighbors had met at the Jones' store that morning to bid them good-bye, and that not a few of them accompanied them about a mile west to the ford across Pigeon creek and saw them safely ford Pigeon creek with their loads over into Warrick county. I heard James Grigsby say that he went with Lincoln from Jones' store west on the Boonville road to the ford on Pigeon creek into Warrick county, and that Abe said that they were going by way of Boonville as it was the only way they could go.

Mass Clark also told me that he met the Lincolns the morning they started to move to Illinois at the ford on Pigeon creek on the Boonville road about a mile west of the Jones' store, and accompanied them west on the said Boonville road, to Polkberry creek in Warrick county and saw them safely ford it, and that they said they were going by

way of Boonville, and he bade them goodbye and he returned home.

I have frequently heard my grandfather, James Gentry, Sr., talk of the Lincolns and tell of the time they moved from Indiana to Illinois in 1830, how they loaded their wagons the day before and came to his home, which stood near where Gentryville now stands, and stayed that night with him, and then he went with them the next days journey over into Warrick county. He said they went by way of the Boonville road and stopped at Col. William Jones' store. . . . He said quite a number of the neighbors and friends had met at Jones' store to bid them goodbye, and after the usual farewells and bidding adieu to them the Lincolns continued their journey westward on this Boonville road, forded Pigeon creek into Warrick county, about one mile to the west of Jones store, and then continued west toward Boonville and stopped the next night and went into camp on the farm of John Phillips near Little Zion church about one-half mile west of Loafers Station, which at that time was located about two miles north of where the town of Tennyson now is, which farm is known as the Edmond Phillips farm, and Abraham Lincoln here said he was going by way of Boonville, for it was the only way they could go with their loaded wagons, and my grandfather said that after they stopped to camp he bade them farewell and returned home. I have heard my father and grandfather tell of many interesting things in regard to Abraham Lincoln, but they always said when the Lincolns moved from Indiana to Illinois in 1830 they went west from Jones' store by the way of Boonville, for at that time there was no other way to go, and at Boonville they could take the old Vincennes road, which was a state road, and one of the best roads in the state at that time.*

ROBERT M. GENTRY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 30th day of July, 1915.

W. E. Williams, Notary Public.

Erasures made by Robert Gentry, July, 1926.

*Published in the Boonville Standard of August 13, 1915.

Mr. Gentry also testified before the Lincoln Route Commission at Lincoln City in 1915.

during that evening he said that was the house that Lincoln lived in. That night some of the neighbors came over and stayed until late bed time and the principal topics were the the Lincolns and they all seemed to know Lincoln and the Lincoln family and they told many interesting things to me concerning Abraham Lincoln, and during the time the question was asked by Mr. Gasaway which way the Lincolns went when they moved to Illinois and Mr. Chinn said that they went by Jones' store, which stood three-fourths mile west of where Gentryville now stands, and continued on west on the Corydon and Boonville road, which road ran west by way of what is now Folsomville, and from there to Boonville and from Boonville they said he went north by way of what is now Lynnvile and on toward Vincennes. This was the general talk among those present that night we stayed there, for Abe Lincoln was in his boyhood days acquainted with these men and now he had moved west and had been in congress and they talked of it as to what a boy could do by going west. They told many other things concerning A. Lincoln in his school days in that community which was very interesting to me. I give this as not only what I heard that night, but afterwards I lived at Loafers Station on this Boonville and Corydon road, about six miles south of Selvin, and I also, in that community, heard the old people say that the Lincolns went west to Boonville on this Corydon road. And I will further say that I never in all my life heard anybody at Selvin or Polkpatch say the Lincolns went that way when he moved to Illinois.*

Yours truly,
Isaac G. Cissna.

*Published in the Boonville Standard May 28, 1915.

JAMES E. STEPHENS

Boonville, Ind., May 28, 1915.

W. E. Williams.
Boonville, Indiana.

Sir:-

In answer to your inquiry I will say that I was born on the 19th day of March, 1858, in Skelton Township, Warrick County, Indiana on the Corydon and Boonville road about three miles west of the town of Gentryville, Spencer County, and excepting two years have lived in and in knowing distance of this community all my life. My father and mother, after I was married, lived in and died at Gentryville and are buried there. My eldest sister married Jacob

Oskins, who was the son of William Oskins, who was one of the early settlers of that community and who was one of the neighbors of the Lincolns when they lived in that community. After Jacob Oskins married my sister he moved onto a part of the farm of John Romine, who was also one of the early settlers of that community and who was a neighbor to and well acquainted with the Lincolns when they lived in that community. During the time that said Jacob Oskins lived on this said farm about one fourth mile west of the Pigeon Baptist Church, I worked for him and during that time I became acquainted with John Romine, he being at that time quite an old man, and also William Oskins, being an aged man at that time. He would come to the home of his son, Jacob Oskins, and Mr. John Romine would also come and these two old men would talk over, as they called it, "old times" and would tell of the early settlers and many things that were very interesting to me, being then but a boy.

At that time Jacob Oskins lived about a mile south of the old Lincoln farm, where Lincoln City now stands, and I visited the old farm and have been in the old Lincoln house quite a number of times while it was yet standing there. I have seen a great many strangers who came there to see the old house, and they would frequently take some memento of relic from the same. I have seen them take a hatchet and cut chips from the logs to make into toothpicks so as to have some relics from the Lincoln house.

During the conversations between John Romine and William Oskins I remember of hearing John Romine tell of how slow Lincoln was; that when they started to move to Illinois, the first day they only got down as far as Edmund Phillips', for they were moving with oxen and the road was very bad. He said the reason he knew this was that Thomas Lincoln owned a certain tract of land of 80 acres which he wanted to sell or trade for a good horse and after the Lincolns had started he followed them and caught up with them at Edmond Phillips' in Warrick County about six miles west of where Gentryville now stands, and there they stayed that night with John Phillips, the father of Edmond Phillips, and there John Romine said he traded to Lincoln a young horse for the said 80 acres of land, received a deed for same and returned home. He said that Lincoln said he was going by way of Boonville. I heard these two old men tell this and many other things about Lincoln quite often*

Hoping this answers your inquiry,

Yours truly,

JAMES E. STEPHENS.

*Published in the Boonville Standard June 11, 1915.

**To the INDIANA LINCOLN TRAIL COMMISSION and the
WARRICK COUNTY LINCOLN TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

The following is a statement relative to Abraham Lincoln and his family during their residence in Indiana and their subsequent trip from their home at Lincoln City, Indiana, to their new home in Illinois.

These are the facts, as told to me by Mr. John Romine about the year 1882-1883, when my father, John Hagan, was a tenant on the Romine farm, which is located on the southern boundary of the Lincoln farm, also adjoining Old Pigeon church, in which the Lincoln family worshipped. Mr. Romine used to talk to our family, telling about employing Lincoln to work on the farm, and about Abe being lazy and many times finding his sitting on the plow reading a book instead of working, as he was paid to do. Also related the story of the Lincoln family leaving their home in Indiana, and about their first day's trip through what is now the town of Gentryville to what was then the town of Jonesboro, three-quarters mile west, including the purchase of goods from the Jones store, which Abe sold from his ox cart on his way to Illinois. He stated that leaving Jonesboro, the family proceeded west through that portion of Spencer county, crossing Pigeon creek at the ford about one-half mile west of Jonesboro, into Warrick county, in which they made their way west to Pokeberry Creek, about two miles, where it was again necessary to ford that stream: about building a crossing of birch poles, on which to allow the oxen to pass over. From that point they proceeded west to Loafers Station, which was about six miles west of Jonesboro, from which point they proceeded west about one-fourth mile and camped for the first night out. He told about helping the Lincolns when their ox carts were mired in the mud, and the hardships they encountered enroute. The second day out they proceeded toward Folsomville, through Warrick County into Boonville, thence to Lynnville and on to Vincennes, where they crossed the Wabash River, into Illinois. This statement was told repeatedly to me and my parents, John Hagen, by Mr. Romine, during our five years of residence on the Romine farm and many times

used to tell us of his friendship with the Lincolns, as well as their first two days', leaving Lincoln City, enroute to Illinois.

CORDIE HAGAN THOMPSON.

State of Indiana,
Vanderburgh County.

This foregoing statement is subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of July, Ninteen Hundred Thirty One.

Katherine Hargrave, Notary Public.
My commission expires Nov. 15, 1932.

State of Indiana, {
County of Warrick, } ss:

John R. Wright and Ben Leslie each for himself deposes and says that they, when they were boys, they lived with Edmund Phillips, who was a son of John Phillips, who lived near the Spencer county line in the year 1830. John R. Wright having lived in the family from the time he was six years old until he was twenty two years old, and Ben Leslie having lived with the family from the time he was fourteen years old until he was nineteen years of age.

Said affiants depose and say that they have often heard Edmund Phillips say that when a boy, the Lincoln family when moving to Illinois stopped at Little Zion church to go into camp for the night, and he saw them there and reported the same to his father, John Phillips, who told him to go and invite the Lincolns to come to his house and stay over night, which they did.

This was on the old Corydon road leading to Boonville and the Lincolns on leaving the Phillips' home came on west on said road to Boonville. A set of plates owned by John Phillips was used while the Lincolns were at his house and these plates passed from John Phillips to his son, Edmund Phillips, and from him to his son, Elijah Phillips, and from him to his son, James Phillips and from James Phillips to his daughter Ethel Phillips who is now the wife of James G. Broshears.

JOHN R. WRIGHT,
BEN LESLIE

Witness: W. L. Barker.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of March, 1931.

W. L. Barker, Notary Public.

State of Indiana, }
County of Warrick, } ss:

W. H. Scales on his oath deposes and says in the year 1894 he taught at the Kelley school in Skelton township, and boarded with Joseph Blackford, who came from the south and was a strong democrat, and had no personal liking for Abraham Lincoln after he became President. In his conversations Mr. Blackford frequently said he knew Abe Lincoln who was three years his senior in age, and six years bigger when it came to fighting and had bested him in more than one fight. It was the custom to carry the corn to be ground to the grist mill in the hills northeast of Little Zion church known as the Little Joe Phillips mill, or the Byers mill, and the boys would parch corn at the big fire place in the mill while waiting for their corn to be ground and then Abe's big hand would reach out and grab the most of the parched corn and a fight would be started. Mr. Blackford always said that when "that black abolitionist left here he went right down that road," pointing to the road leading from Folsomville to Boonville, and he was actually glad to see him go.

The stones from the Little Joe Phillips mill layed around the barn lot of my place for many years and the lower stone is now used as a door step at my house; the upper stone was broken up and used as corner stones in the foundation of a corn crib.

W. H. SCALES.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of May, 1931.

(L. S.)

Wm. L. Barker, Notary Public.

My commission expires the 18th of December, 1934.

ARGUMENT

Southern Indiana in the year 1830 was covered with primeval forest, except here and there where the early settlers had made clearings along the navigable streams and old Indian trails. Southern Indiana in the year 1830 was criss-crossed with Indian trails and animal trails running through the forest in all directions. The main trails started at the Ohio River, avoided the swampy lands and crossed the streams at the most fordable places. A few settlements

—cabins with small clearings—were scattered along these trails. The Indian titles had been extinguished a quarter of a century before and the land was mostly unsettled public domain. These old trails knew no survey lines but in time some of them were perpetuated as roads by improvement. In 1830, however, there were but very few real wagon roads in the counties of Warrick, Spencer, Pike and Dubois. The process of making a road after a petition was filed required an action or order of the County Board of Justices appointing viewers to definitely locate the proposed road on the best ground. After the road was thus laid out a Supervisor was appointed and his road hands were named and allotted to him for his section of the road. The Supervisor warned out his hands and proceeded to chop out his road according to the viewers report. The right-of-way cost nothing because, in the main, the road ran through public domain. Every county has some record of its roads that were laid out and maintained as wagon roads. The report of the viewers and appointment of the Supervisors and the road hands allotted to each Supervisor are all matters of record as far back as the organization of the county.

In the foregoing brief of evidence, we have conclusively shown, by copies of the record of the Board of Justices of Warrick County, that the old road running from the old Lincoln homestead in Spencer County westward past the Jones store or Jonesboro to Boonville, the county seat of Warrick County, known as the Boonville and Corydon Road was, for many years prior to 1830, a wagon road maintained and kept in repair by public authority.

The same thing is true of the old road known as the Boonville and Petersburg Road running North from Boon-

ville through where the Town of Lynnville now stands to the Town of Petersburg in Pike County.

We especially call the Commission's attention to the copy of the order of the Board of Justices of Warrick County appointing Elijah Boyd as a Supervisor on the Petersburg Road wherein it recites that his section of the road begins at the South end of the **crossway** at Big Creek and ends at the **bridge** on Otter Creek. (This brief, page 10.) This record conclusively shows that this Boonville to Petersburg Road was, prior to 1825, not only a road maintained as a wagon road in the ordinary way but that, prior to that time, particular pains had been taken to construct a crossway across the soft or miry portion of bottom land and the streams had been bridged. In the appointment of Tubby Bloyd as Supervisor on this road May 7, he was ordered to repair this crossway. (This brief, page 10.) The same **crossway** is also referred to in the appointment of Isaac Fleener as Supervisor on said road May 5, 1828. (This brief, page 11.)

We also especially call the Commission's attention to the copy of the order of said Board of Justices appointing Joseph Hunsaker as Supervisor of a portion of said Petersburg Road on May 3, 1830 wherein it is recited that his portion of said road commences at the South end of the **bridge** on Otter Creek and ends at the South end of the **bridge** on Big Creek; (This brief, page 11.) and also to the copy of the order of said Board of Justices made at the same time appointing Joseph Rice as Supervisor over a portion of said Petersburg Road wherein it is recited that his portion of said road commences at the South end of the **bridge** on Big Creek and ending at the 23d mile post on said road. (This brief, page 12). This record conclusively shows that,

prior to the time of the Lincoln migration from Indiana, this road leading North from Boonville to Petersburg contained bridges over the principal streams.

The records of the entries of land show that practically all of the land lying adjacent to the said Boonville and Corydon Road between Jonesboro and Boonville and along the Boonville and Petersburg Road between Boonville and Petersburg had been entered by settlers prior to March, 1830.

A Baptist church known as Little Zion church was located in the settlement on the said Corydon Road between the Spencer County line and the Town of Boonville. Therefore, that portion of Warrick County must have contained a considerable population to maintain the church. Another church of the same denomination was located on the Boonville and Petersburg Road where the Town of Lynnville now stands.

We also call the Commission's special attention to the copy of the record of the Board of Justices of Warrick County appointing Isaac Fleener as Supervisor on a part of this state road leading from Boonville to Petersburg made on May 7, 1827 in which the following language appears:

“And allowed all the hands who worked under Frances South of a line from the **old school house** to John Barkers.” (This brief, page 10.)

This record conclusively shows that this settlement on the old Petersburg Road was old enough at that time, in 1827, to have a school house that the record refers to as an old school house.

Each of these roads connected at Boonville with roads leading to various points on the Ohio River, one of which was known as the Rockport or High Banks Road leading from Boonville to Rockport; one of which was known as the Yellow Banks Road, leading from Boonville to Owensboro in Kentucky; another was a part of this Boonville and Petersburg Road, which commenced at Mt. Prospect (alias) Sprinklesburg, which is now Newburgh, and from that point ran through Boonville to Petersburg and it was over these various roads that the early settlers hauled their produce to the market on the Ohio River. Both these roads, the Boonville and Corydon Road and the Boonville and Petersburg Road, have been ever since said early days and are now public highways. We have, therefore, shown the Commission not by mere conjecture or speculation or hearsay but by the public records that there was an available wagon road in March, 1830, leading westward from where the Lincolns then lived to the Town of Boonville in Warrick County and thence North from Boonville to the Town of Petersburg in Pike County.

In those early days a good wagon road meant more to the emigrants than any other one thing. They usually traveled in those days in wagons the wheels of which were made by sawing off blocks of large logs and these wagons were drawn by ox teams. We can, therefore, readily see that the emigrants would avoid, if possible, the risks of unknown roads that might lead through marshy or soft bottom lands and would instead seek those roads maintained at public expense and along which lived many settlers.

If the Indiana Lincoln Memorial Highway Commission requires all claimants of the Lincoln Route to cite the

public records showing the establishment prior to March 1, 1830, of the wagon road over which the Lincoln emigrants might have traveled on their journey from Jonesboro to Vincennes, their problem will be greatly simplified because then there would be but few roads to consider. By such a ruling several contestants would be eliminated. The Commission should not be expected to locate a wagon road for claimants who can not furnish record evidence that there was an authentic available wagon road by which the emigrants might have traveled.

Another matter that adds credence and weight to the evidence showing that the Lincolns made their migration to Illinois through Boonville over the Boonville and Corydon Road and North to Petersburg over the Boonville and Petersburg Road is the so-called church evidence.

Thomas Lincoln was a member of Little Pigeon Baptist church located about a half mile south of the Lincoln farm, which was organized in 1816, as appears from the old church record. This old record also shows Thomas Lincoln's membership in said church and that he joined the same by letter from a church of the same denomination at his old home in Kentucky and also shows his appointment as Moderator and other offices performed by him in the association and Abraham Lincoln's sister, Sarah Grigsby, is buried in the cemetery of said church.

Among those who went to the Jones store to bid good-bye to the Lincoln family were a number of Baptists who accompanied them to Little Pigeon Creek West of the Jones store on the Corydon road and saw them safely over the ford there. Another Baptist, Masterson Clark, met them and saw them safely over Polk Berry Creek, a short

distance West of Pigeon Creek. They stopped the first night to go into camp at Little Zion Baptist Church on the Corydon Road between their home and Boonville and accepted the invitation of John Phillips, another Baptist, to spend the night without cost at his house. The second night the emigrants stayed at the home of Joseph Lankford, another Baptist and acquaintance of the Lincolns, who lived on the Boonville and Petersburg Road North of Boonville, but who formerly lived neighbor to Thomas Lincoln in Spencer county and belonged to the same church with him. (See affidavit of Mary E. Floyd on page 35 of this brief.) The following day they were at the home of Nicholas Anderson Hanks, another Baptist and a relative of the Lincolns, being a cousin of Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, and the next we hear of them is their stopping for water at the farm of Arthur Thompson, another Baptist, who lived on the Boonville and Petersburg Road. The three Baptist churches, one near Lincoln's home, the other on the Boonville and Corydon Road between their home and Boonville and the other on the Boonville and Petersburg Road at the place where the Town of Lynnville now stands are each still in existence. Of course, different buildings have been constructed but the old organizations continue to function. The Rev. J. W. Richardson of that church denomination testified before the Lincoln Highway Commission appointed by Governor Ralston in 1915 that he was well acquainted with the Hanks who lived near where the Town of Lynnville now is and he told that Commission that he conscientiously believed the Lincoln family went through Boonville and thence North up the Boonville and Petersburg Road to Petersburg because of that old church affiliation. He said, "Us Baptists are different from other people; we stick together." (This brief, page 21.) It

is at least more reasonable that the Lincolns would travel the route on which churches of their own denomination existed and along which they had acquaintances and relatives rather than to travel the Northern route through Dubois County settled principally by German and Irish Catholics.

The population of Dubois County in the year 1830 was at its North end along White River near Portersville, the county seat, and there was no need of a wagon road through twenty miles of unsettled wilderness to the Spencer County line. The route to Boonville from Lincoln's home was not only the best way and the shortest way but the only way. The record evidence set forth in this brief as to the Boonville and Corydon Road and the Boonville and Petersburg Road being wagon roads many years prior to 1830 leaves nothing to conjecture or tradition. Similar evidence of any authentic wagon road from the Lincoln home north through Spencer County and thence through the unsettled wilderness of Dubois county twenty miles North of Portersville has never been and can never be shown because it does not exist.

That the Boonville route from Jonesboro to Petersburg is a shorter route than from Jonesboro by way of where Jasper now is to Petersburg is shown by the following figures:

From the Jones store to Boonville, it is sixteen miles and from Boonville to Petersburg, it is thirty-two miles. Therefore, from the Jones store to Petersburg by way of Boonville, it is forty-eight miles. From Jonesboro to Jasper, it is twenty-six and one-half miles, and from Jasper to Petersburg, it is twenty-six and one-half miles. Therefore, the total distance from Jonesboro by way of Jasper to Petersburg is fifty-three miles or five miles farther than

it is by way of Boonville. These distances are calculated on section lines.

The following persons who made the affidavits hereinabove set out in this brief, to-wit: Captain William Jones, Allen Gentry, Robert M. Gentry, Sarah Gray, Mary E. Floyd, Bartley Inco, Jacob Clarke, L. B. Barker, Francis M. Carlisle, James W. Phillips, Joseph L. Phillips, James Blackford, Jacob Oskins, Isaac C. Cissna and James E. Stevens, were each either descendants of or acquainted with the old neighbors and acquaintances of the Lincoln family while they lived in Indiana and the writers of this brief, Philip Lutz, Jr., William L. Barker and Union W. Youngblood, are each acquainted with the standing and reputation of these various witnesses and hereby vouch for their honesty and integrity. Their statements voluntarily made—most of them without any solicitation from anyone—can not be lightly passed over but, we think, should be decisive of the question involved and most of them can not possibly have any selfish interest as to where the Lincoln route is established other than that they would like to see it established according to the facts.

We especially invite the Commission's careful consideration of the affidavits of Captain William Jones, Allen Gentry, Robert M. Gentry, Sarah Gray, Elizabeth A. Goad, Bartley Inco, Mary E. Floyd and James W. Phillips, as they were all outstanding citizens that we do not believe could have been induced for any consideration to make false statement concerning the question involved.

All of the citizens who lived in the neighborhood from which the Lincolns started their migration to Illinois without a dissenting voice say the tradition handed down

to them from those who were living at the time the Lincolns left is to the effect that they went West past the Jones store on the Corydon Road to Boonville and thence North to Petersburg. Now, if they, in fact, went North past where Jasper has since been located, there would certainly be some tradition about the fact among the people whose ancestors knew them best but we throw out the challenge for some of the descendants or acquaintances of the neighbors of the Lincolns to tell us they went North and the only response is the echo of our challenge.

We also call the Commission's special attention to the two letters hereinabove quoted in this brief, one from Mrs. W. E. Squires addressed to J. W. Richardson in which she says:

"I write you in regard to the letter in the Courier of Lincoln's route to Illinois. I have heard my grandfather, James Gentry (playmate of Abe Lincoln) tell that when the Lincoln family left for Illinois that the Gentry family went as far as Pigeon Creek and there bade them good-bye and that the Lincoln family went by way of Boonville. I thought perhaps this letter might be some help." (This brief, page 21.)

The second letter being by George McClellan in which he says:

"My mother was personally acquainted with Abe Lincoln and admired him very much as she bought goods from him when he was in a store and I have heard her say when they went to leave Gentryville the few settlers around there gathered in and bade them good-bye and some went part of the way with them on the road. I have heard her

say time and again that they went by way of Boonville, Indiana.” (This brief, page 21.)

We also call your attention to the letter by the Rev. Ira Broshears in which he says:

“Just at the close of the war of 1861-65 I was County Surveyor in Spencer County and surveyed lands in the vicinity of the Lincoln home—one line, as I recall it, was the south line of the Lincoln tract, and quite close to Mrs. Lincoln’s grave, which was reverently visited.

While in that locality, I talked with some of the oldest citizen in regard to the Lincoln family and it rests upon my mind that they said the Lincolns went by way of Boonville.” (This brief, page 22.)

We also call attention to the statement by Charles E. Skinner, who is now Principal of the High School at Lexington, Ky. that his grandfather, Arthur Thompson, was an early settler and laid out the town of Arthur, Pike County, Indiana, on his farm and that his grandfather had frequently said that the Lincolns, when moving to Illinois, had stopped at his house for water and that they came from the South over the road leading from Boonville and that his grandfather was a Baptist. (This brief, page 22.)

These several letters were voluntarily written without solicitation and are entitled to great weight in determining the question involved.

We do not deem it necessary to set out in this argument the substance of the various affidavits hereinabove set out in the brief because we are sure each member of

the Commission will carefully read each of the affidavits and give them the weight that they are entitled to.

We must remember that one of the real matters for consideration by the Commission is as to what wagon roads were in existence and available for wagon travel prior to March, 1830. Pages 14 to 17 of the report of the Weik and Cravens Commission appointed by Governor Ralston mention Jasper twenty-one times. Their investigation, however should have shown that Jasper was not in existence in March, 1830, when the Lincolns made their migration, and the land upon which it was thereafter platted and laid off was, at that time, public domain. We do not know whether that Commission was deceived in this respect or whether they knew these facts and made their report with full knowledge thereof. Neither is it probable that Enlow's Mill on the Patoka near where Jasper now is was in existence at that time because to establish a mill would have required the establishment of a dam on the river and to do that required a writ of *ad quod damnum* and no such record has ever been produced. Another reason why Enlow's Mill was probably not in existence is that, at that time, the land entry records do not show that there was any sufficient number of settlers in that locality to maintain a mill.

The mail routes of the year 1830 were usually nothing more than bridle paths which followed the old trails through the wilderness over the ridges from one settlement to another settlement. The land entries are along these trails and when the number of settlers justified the County Board of Justices they established the roads and had them cut out and maintained as wagon roads as pro-

vided by law and there was always a record made of these proceedings.

The fallacy of the report of the Weik and Cravens Commission is evidenced in the failure to designate in that report any wagon road from Jonesboro (not Gentryville) to Jasper. The report says "through Dale, Jasper, Ireland, Otwell and Algiers" towns that were not in existence in the year 1830 when the Lincoln family migrated to Illinois. The Legislative Committee properly rejected that report. A study of that report must convince any reader that the Commission determined to reject all the evidence as to the Warrick County Route and to arbitrarily locate the route through unbroken, roadless forests and through towns that were not in existence at the time of the migration. Fifteen members of the Boonville Lincoln Route Association were present when that report came up for consideration before the Legislative Committee. After the Legislative Committee heard the testimony, the report was virtually tabled. The two commissioners left the Legislative Hall. The appropriation had been spent and not a definite wagon road mentioned between Jonesboro and Vincennes. The idea of locating so important an undertaking as the Lincoln Route on "probabilities" through an unbroken forest, crossing creeks and swamps with no authentic wagon road shown and in the face of all the verbal evidence furnished to the contrary is preposterous and suggestive of arbitrary action.

In the seven townships lying South of the Patoka River in Dubois County, containing two hundred forty-nine and one-fourth square miles or more than one-half of the total area of that county, up to March 10, 1830, only eighteen entrymen had filed their land entries. There was,

therefore, only one possible resident land owner for each 13.8 square miles in Dubois County South of the Patoka River.

Up to March 10, 1830, only the following land entries had been made within the present civil townships of Dubois County:

Boon Township with 35 sections had 24 entrymen;
Harbinson Township with $39\frac{3}{4}$ sections had 16 entrymen;

Columbia Township with 36 square miles had 6 entrymen;

Madison Township with $35\frac{1}{4}$ square miles had 26 entrymen;

Bainbridge Township with 35 square miles had 16 entrymen;

Marion Township with $32\frac{1}{4}$ square miles had 2 entrymen;

Hall Township with 36 square miles had 3 entrymen;
Jefferson Township with 35 square miles had no land entries;

Jackson Township with 34 square miles had 2 entrymen;

Patoka Township with 39 square miles had 6 entrymen;

Cass Township with 38 square miles had 5 entrymen, and Ferdinand with 36 square miles had not a single entryman.

The total number of entrymen in the county was one hundred sixteen. (See Dubois County map opposite page 16.)

If, in 1830, a road had been run South from Portersville on the White River, the then county seat of Dubois

County, to the South line of Dubois County, a distance of over twenty miles, there would have been fifteen land entry-men along this road and twelve of these fifteen would have been North of the Patoka River and only three of them on the nine miles South of the Patoka River to the Spencer County line. Unless such a road connected with a road leading on to Jonesboro, it would have been useless to the emigrants, but there was no probability the Board of Justices would have ordered nine miles of roadway to be cut out and maintained South of the Patoka River to the Spencer County line to serve only three settlers.

The Weik and Cravens Commission failed to designate any wagon road over this route for the very good reason that there was none and there was no evidence of any.

The Weik and Cravens report to the effect that the migration route of the Lincolns went North through Dale to Jasper and thence Northwestward to Petersburg and thence on to Vincennes was very evidently based almost entirely upon the statements therein referred to made by August H. Chapman and Dennis Hanks. There are some peculiar things about these two statements, however, that we desire to call the Commission's special attention to. The first is that the Chapman statement says that Abe Lincoln told him they went North through Jasper and from Jasper through **Washington** and thence over to Vincennes. If they went this route, they must have gone through Portersville then the county seat of Dubois County but in Chapman's statement Portersville is not mentioned but Jasper, that was not in existence at the time of the migration and the land on which it now exists was, at that time, public domain, is mentioned. The same thing is true of the Dennis Hanks statement. He says in substance they went North

through Jasper and thence to **Petersburg**. He too, therefore, specifically mentions a town that was not in existence at the time of the migration. Neither was the Town of Dale in existence at that time. Elizabeth, as Dale was first named, was not laid out until 1843, thirteen years after the migration. Another peculiar thing about the statements of Chapman and Dennis Hanks is that according to Chapman, Lincoln stated they went from Jasper through **Washington**; while Hanks differs with him and says they went from Jasper through **Petersburgh**. This to our mind very clearly reveals that they were guessing at the route they travelled in those early days. If they were not guessing, then why this difference of opinion? They remembered evidently that they went in a general direction North and Northwest and very probably, at the time or prior to making these statements, they had examined a modern map that revealed the Towns of Dale, Jasper, Petersburg and Washington and, as these towns lay in the general direction that they thought they traveled, they guessed that they were the towns they went through. According to William E. Barton and some other Lincoln historians, many statements made by Dennis Hanks were found to be unreliable. We, therefore, insist that the Weik and Cravens Commission was not warranted in their decision that the migratory route ran through Jasper based upon this uncertain and conflicting evidence of Chapman and Hanks. Especially is this true in view of the overwhelming record evidence and letter and affidavit evidence presented in this brief showing that the route of travel of the Lincolns was West from Jonesboro over the Boonville and Corydon Road to Boonville and thence North over the Boonville and Petersburg Road to Petersburg.

In conclusion, we respectfully submit that we have shown, by the evidence set out in this brief, at least three reasons that we think should convince your Honorable Commission that the migratory route of the Lincolns from their home in Spencer County to Illinois went through Warrick County over the Corydon and Boonville Road to Boonville and the Boonville and Petersburg road to Petersburg.

First, the record evidence set out in this brief conclusively shows that, at the time the Lincolns made their said migration, the Corydon and Boonville Road and the Boonville and Petersburg Road were well defined public highways constantly in use for wagon travel and the principal creeks had been bridged and crossways laid and there were churches and school houses located along the same.

Second, the fact that there were churches and school houses along these two roads shows that the country along the same was thickly settled for those days and the evidence also shows that church and other acquaintances and even relatives of the Lincolns lived along these two roads and that it would, therefore, be reasonable that they would travel over the route along which they had acquaintances and relatives.

Third, the letter and affidavit evidence set out in this brief is very strong and convincing that the Lincolns did, in fact, travel over these two roads. The letters and affidavits that we present in this brief are by decendants of those who knew first hand of the facts that are related in the affidavits and the affidavits are made by prominent citizens who we are sure could not be induced to make any false statement because of any private interest they might

have in the matter and are made mostly by the people who could not possibly have any interest as to which way the route is established by your Commission, except that they want to see it established according to the real facts. In this respect we call your especial attention again to the affidavits of the following well-known citizens: Captain William Jones, the son of Colonel William Jones, who employed Lincoln in his store at Jonesboro, and of Allen and Robert Gentry, sons of James Gentry, who was the playmate of Abe Lincoln, and of Sarah Gray, a daughter of Henry Hart, who was the pastor of Little Pigeon Baptist church during the time Thomas Lincoln was a member thereof, and of Bartley Inco, a prominent citizen of Spencer County, who married into the same family of Grigsbys that Lincoln's sister did, and of Jacob Clarke, the son of Massa Clarke, who was present when the Lincolns left on their migration, and of James W. Phillips and Isaac G. Cissna, who are also prominent citizens and descendants of neighbors of the Lincolns at that time, and the affidavit of Mary E. Floyd, whose mother was the daughter of Joseph Lankford with whom the Lincolns stayed all night on the second night North of Boonville on the Petersburg road, and the affidavit of Elizabeth Goad, who lived all of her life on the Petersburg Road North of Boonville and was a prominent woman of her community and owned considerable land, and the affidavit of Corda Hagen Thompson; and also the statements in letters of the following prominent citizens: William Fortune of Indianapolis, Mrs. W. E. Squires and George McClellan and Ira Broshears.

All of this evidence, it seems to us, has great driving force to convince your Honorable Commission that the Lincolns, in their migration, traveled over the route herein-

above indicated and we earnestly pray that your Honorable Commission will so decide.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM L. BARKER,

PHILIP LUTZ, JR.,

UNION W. YOUNGBLOOD.

For and on behalf of the Warrick County Lincoln Route Association, Boonville, Indiana, September 1, 1931.

Memorandum

Memorandum

Memorandum

Memorandum

Press of
The Boonville Standard
Boonville, Indiana

THE ROMANIAN REVOLUTION

by [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE BOONVILLE STANDARD

CHARLES H. JOHNSON, Editor and Publisher

Printing

Office Equipment

Engraving

BOONVILLE, INDIANA

1-15-32

Henrietta C. Horner
Albany N. Y.

We have fine of the Lincoln Briefs
left and can supply you with one
of them for \$2.00. This is the regular

brief, let me hear from you at once
as the demand has been quite heavy for

them

Respectfully

Chas H Johnson

You really go calling
by proxy when you send
out letters

